

CAPTIVATING CROATIA

YOUNG ALUMNI TOUR 2021
BE PART OF THE TRADITION



JULY 10 - U.S. DEPARTURE DATE | JULY 11 - LAND TOUR START DATE

JULY 17 - RETURN HOME

BASE LAND PACKAGE FROM: \$ 1,865



START YOUR ADVENTURE.

Dear Young Alumni and Friends!

Can you think of a better way to travel than with fellow NC State Young Alumni?

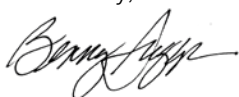
The NC State young alumni travel program offers you this opportunity by bringing you together with individuals in the same age range, with similar backgrounds and experiences, while enriching you on well-designed, hassle-free tours of the world.

Travel with young alumni and friends of peer institutions, ages 22 – 35. These programs provide social, cultural, and recreational activities and many opportunities for learning enrichment and enjoying a connection back to the Wolfpack alumni family. They are of great quality and value, operated by a travel company with over 40 years of experience in the young professional travel market.

In this brochure you will find a detailed itinerary, travel dates and pricing. Visit our website www.aesu.com/ncstate for details on all tours and to book online.

If you have any questions about our young alumni travel program, please contact us by emailing Kathy Hart at the NC State Alumni Association by emailing: k_hart@ncsu.edu or call 301-405-7938.

Sincerely,



Benny Suggs
Executive Director,
NC State Alumni Association



TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend travel insurance. (Some schools or alumni associations may offer travel insurance to you at a reduced rate.) If not, AESU also offers group travel insurance. Ask our reservations agent for details or click on this link:
<https://www.tripassure.com/main/?welcome=AESU3922MD>

CAPTIVATING CROATIA

8 DAYS



PLACES VISITED:
Zagreb - Split - Mostar - Dubrovnik

ABOUT THE TRIP:

Discover the cultural legacy left behind by kingdoms and empires who occupied these lands for centuries. Fall in love with Dubrovnik's colossal city walls, elaborate buildings, and limestone streets framed by the blue Adriatic Sea. Explore Zagreb's Upper Town with its cobblestone streets and red-roof buildings and Lower Town's art deco architecture. Experience Dalmatian life when stepping inside Split's Diocletian's Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the world's most striking Roman monuments. Get lost in the palace's labyrinthine streets bustling with people frequenting bars, shops and restaurants, and experience pure nature on your walk through Plitvice National Park with its sixteen crystal-like terraced lakes. Unleash your inner adventurer and journey through Croatia with us!

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

Welcome orientation * Zagreb city sights * Plitvice Lakes National Park, UNESCO World Heritage Site * Nature hike * Boat and train ride at Plitvice National Park * UNESCO World Heritage Site Diocletian Palace in Split * Adriatic beaches * Scenic drive along the coast, crossing Bosnia Herzegovina * Medieval Mostar and Stari Most Ottoman bridge, UNESCO World Heritage site * Turkish House and Muslim Mosque in Mostar * Castles and Dungeons * UNESCO World Heritage Site Dubrovnik * Tastes of local cuisine * Guided tours with local historians ...and much more!

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

The 8-day land package includes:
6 nights in superior tourist class hotels or better, 2-share rooms with private bath/shower * 6 continental breakfasts * 2 lunches: Picnic/box lunch at Plitvice Lake National Park and Turkish lunch in Mostar * 3 specialty dinners: traditional welcome dinner in Zagreb, Dalmatian dinner in Split, Croatian farewell dinner in Dubrovnik * Welcome cocktail and orientation * Nature hike at Plitvice Lake National Park * Guided tours in Split, Dubrovnik and Mostar with local historian * Admission to: Plitvice Lakes National Park, Split Diocletian's Palace and Dungeons, Turkish House and Muslim Mosque in Mostar, Dubrovnik city walls and Fortress Lovrijenac * Airport transfer with purchased AESU group airfare

CAPTIVATING CROATIA

ITINERARY

DAY 1 - TRAVEL TO CROATIA

Today, embark on your overnight flight to Zagreb, capital city of Croatia.

Meals: In-flight

DAY 2 - ZAGREB: LAND TOUR START DAY

This vibrant city has it all: culture, arts, music, architecture and good eats. Explore the city on your own, relax, or join us on an optional walking tour with a local historian. Visit the medieval Upper Town, Zagreb's oldest district. Sitting on top of two hills, Kaptol, the old town's clerical center was once home to the city's nobility. It is clustered around the city's elegant neo-Gothic cathedrals and Gradec, lined with pastel-colored baroque palaces. Check out Gornji Grad and the Church of St. Mark's, the Art Pavilion and the Meštrović Gallery, or the Croatian National Theater. Tonight join the welcome cocktail and cevapcici dinner with our travel companions.

Inclusions: Transfer from airport to hotel included with purchased AESU group airfare; Welcome cocktail and orientation

Meals: In-flight, Dinner

Optional activity: 2-hour walking tour of Zagreb with a local historian



DAY 3 - ZAGREB - PLITVICE LAKES NATIONAL PARK - SPLIT

Depart Zagreb early in the morning for a drive south to Plitvice Lakes National Park, one of Europe's great natural wonders. This is truly one of the most amazing primeval forests, featuring 16 terraced lakes, laced together by waterfalls and miles of wooden walkways and bridges. Take advantage of the park's free boat and train rides to get the most out of your visit and enjoy a picnic lunch at one of the park's al fresco dining areas. Our journey continues to the historic port city of Split, Croatia's second-largest city. This bustling city offers a perfect balance between traditional and modern lifestyles. The jewel in the center of town is the breathtaking Diocletian's Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most impressive Roman monuments in the world. Enjoy a typical Dalmatian dinner, then stroll along the lively harbor by the sparkling Adriatic Sea.

Inclusions: Excursion to Plitvice Lakes National Park including admission to the park; Plitvice nature hike; Boat and train rides at Plitvice National Park Picnic lunch (weather permitting); Diocletian's Palace, UNESCO World Heritage Site; Stroll along Split harbor by the Adriatic Sea; Typical Dalmatian dinner

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



DAY 4 - SPLIT

On our morning tour of Split with a local historian, we explore the ancient palace built in the early 4th century as a retirement estate for the Roman Emperor, Diocletian, who spared no expense on the palace. He imported marble from Italy and Greece, and columns and sphinxes from Egypt. Today the palace is a living monument, with residences and colorful shops that started to occupy the ruins around the 7th century. This afternoon, continue your own exploration of Split, sample fresh local seafood, or relax on the beach.

Inclusions: Morning sightseeing tour of Split with a local historian; Admission to Diocletian's Palace including dungeon; Adriatic beaches

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 5 - SPLIT

Spend the day as you wish, or join us on an optional all-day aquatic adventure exploring the Blue Grotto, Green Caves, Stiniva Cove, and the popular islands of Biševo, Vis, and Hvar with lavender fields, lofty peaks, and yacht-filled marinas.



CAPTIVATING CROATIA

ITINERARY

Our excursion includes time for swimming, snorkeling, and exploration of the islands.

Inclusions: Beach time in Split

Meals: Breakfast

Optional activity: Full-day excursion to the islands of Bisevo, Vis and Hvar

DAY 6 - SPLIT - MOSTAR - DUBROVNIK

This morning we drive along the dramatic Adriatic coastline into Bosnia Herzegovina for a visit to Mostar. For more than four hundred years, Bosnia Herzegovina has been part of the Ottoman Empire and its effects are still visible in everyday life: in culture, language, cuisine. Our local guide will take us back in time on a walk along Kujundziluk, the town's old bazaar and Turkish-era street markets. We tour the historic Koski Mehmed Paša Mosque and the Turkish House before lunch. Take some time to shop at bazaars that line the polished cobbled street, sit at a riverside café and sip on a Turkish coffee while watching locals dive off Stari Most, the 16th century Ottoman arched bridge that crosses the Neretva River before we continue to Dubrovnik, 'Pearl of the Adriatic' and UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Inclusions: Scenic drive along the coast, crossing Bosnia Herzegovina; Medieval Mostar and Stari Most Ottoman bridge, UNESCO World Heritage Site; Walking tour of Mostar, guided by a local historian; Admission to Turkish House and Muslim Mosque; Dubrovnik 'Pearl of the Adriatic'

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 7 - DUBROVNIK

Whether this is your first visit to Dubrovnik or you are returning, the beauty of the Old Town will never cease to amaze you. Our local historian will take us on a walk through the ancient city, including Fort Lovrijenac, often called "Dubrovnik's Gibraltar," and along the 25 meter high city wall which has protected the city from pirates and unwanted guests for centuries. Enjoy some of the best views of Dubrovnik, overlooking the red-roofed, terracotta skyline. Be enchanted by the city's marble streets, imposing stone walls rising from steep cliffs, churches, monuments and picturesque coves and beaches. During free time, take some time to shop in the narrow streets or opt for a cocktail at one of the cafés carved in the city walls, overlooking the blue Adriatic Sea. Tonight, join us for our farewell Croatian dinner of local specialties.

Inclusions: Morning sightseeing tour of Dubrovnik led by a local historian; Admission to Fort Lovrijenac; Admission to Dubrovnik city walls; Exploration of Dubrovnik's narrow streets and cliff-side cocktail bars; Farewell Croatian dinner

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 8 - TRAVEL HOME

After breakfast the land program ends and we bid farewell to our new-found friends and make plans for a reunion trip.

Inclusions: Transfer from hotel to airport included with purchased AESU group airfare

Meals: Breakfast, In-flight

Your trip includes the services of a private tour director for the duration of the land tour. All services charges and local taxes are included. Thank your tour director and driver with a gratuity at the end of the tour (suggested amount \$5 per day for your tour director and \$2-3 per day for your driver.) They will do their very best to make this trip the most memorable and best time of your life.



PROGRAM ACCOMMODATIONS

HOTELS

Our hotels are superior tourist-class or better, with private bathrooms. They are centrally located or have easy access to public transportation. Many have great extra amenities such as pools, gyms and roof-top bars. All land package rates are based on two people sharing a room. If traveling solo and not wanting to pay the single supplement, AESU will attempt to arrange a share with a same-gender traveler. If a share cannot be arranged a single supplement of \$395 will apply.



ACTIVITY LEVEL 2: MODERATE

Standing and walking for extended periods of time during city tours, museum visits, and/or outdoor activities. Walking over sometimes difficult terrain (e.g. cobblestones, city hills, stairs without handrails, absence of elevators, climbing aboard buses or trains with high steps.) Appropriate for travelers who are physically fit, lead active lives and are comfortable participating in moderate activities.

Please Note: Travel to and from the tour is not factored into our activity level ratings. You should take into account your stamina when traveling long distances and/or with multiple flight changes. Also, you must be able to handle your luggage independently throughout the itinerary.

TOUR DIRECTORS

We are very proud of our tour directors. They are young professionals; multi-lingual and carefully selected graduates from major European universities. They are eager to show the world through the eyes of an adventurer. Our tour directors know this is a trip of a lifetime and will share their knowledge as well as interesting little-known facts. Our qualified tour directors and staff of local experts mean a trouble-free journey with the added security of group travel.



**“IT WAS MY DREAM
COME TRUE AND
I COULDN'T HAVE
ASKED FOR A
BETTER TRIP.”**

- past traveler

BOOKING TERMS & CONDITIONS

EXCLUSIONS: These prices do not include passport and, if applicable, visa fees (Depending on your nationality, you may require visas in addition to a passport to enter certain countries. You must contact appropriate consulates for details on how to obtain on your own.); airport and government taxes; tipping of tour guide and driver (suggested \$5 per day for tour director, \$2-3 per day for driver); beverages with meals unless indicated otherwise; laundry; personal insurance; room service; telephone charges; all items of a personal nature; airport transfers when a participant deviates from scheduled flights or travel dates; private transportation; and all items not specifically stated in the itinerary.

CANCELLATION POLICY: All cancellations must be received by AESU in writing. All cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a \$300 per person cancellation fee. Date of receipt will determine penalties assessed. In addition to \$300, cancellation between 60-31 days of departure will result in forfeiture of 35% of tour cost; between 30-16 days 50%. Cancellation within 15 days of departure or a "no-show" at the time of departure will result in forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip.

AIRFARES are highly restrictive, NON-REFUNDABLE, NON-ENDORSABLE and NON-TRANSFERABLE once ticketed. Once reservation is booked and paid for AESU reserves the right to issue tickets. Once ticketed, airfare portion is non-refundable. Cancellation of airfare reservations is subject to restrictions, regulations and additional penalties of the airlines used. Reservation changes are also subject to penalties. Medical health and accident insurance is compulsory. PLEASE SEE WEBSITE FOR POSSIBLE ADDITIONS TO CANCELLATION POLICIES LISTED ABOVE DEPENDING ON TRIP DESTINATION.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS & BAGGAGE: All participants using AESU flights on regular group departure days and flights receive airport transfers (between airport & tour hotel) overseas. Land-Only participants (providing own flight overseas) do NOT receive airport transfers and must meet group at the first hotel after 3:00 p.m. on program start date. FLIGHT DELAYS - ALL AIRPORTS: In the event that airline schedule changes or delays force you to miss your airport transfer, just make your way to the first hotel listed on your hotel list. Many shuttle services are available as well as taxi or train options. As airline delays are beyond the control of AESU, additional expenses, if incurred, will be borne by the tour participant. (Save receipts for possible reimbursement by airline.) AESU is not responsible if an airline cancels, reschedules, or delays a flight for any reason. If you miss your departure flight, it is your responsibility to work with the airline on which you are ticketed to reach your destination. AESU is not responsible for any additional expenses you may incur prior to joining your trip. AESU is not responsible for and will not provide any refund for portions of trips missed due to canceled, rescheduled, or delayed flights. If you purchase your own airfare, book your overnight flight from the USA one day earlier than the tour start date listed on our website. Participants should limit themselves to one checked bag per person and one carry-on per person. Check your airline's website for any additional luggage restrictions. Liability is clearly stated on the passenger contract.

RESPONSIBILITY: The responsibility of AESU as a tour operator, their agents, and any sponsoring association is limited. They act only in the capacity of agents for the passenger in all matters pertaining to accommodations, sightseeing and transportation whether by railroad, motorboat, motorcar, steamship or plane, and as such they shall not be liable for any personal injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned, whether by reason of any defect in any vehicle, or through the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger, or in carrying out the arrangement of the tour. They can accept no responsibility for strike, war, quarantine, epidemic health risk, any force majeure event, weather and any other natural or unnatural causes. Additional expenses, if incurred under any of these circumstances, will be borne by the tour participant. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for himself/ herself or other passengers & accepts the terms of this contract. The right is reserved to decline, accept or retain any person as a member of the tour or to cancel or alter the tour as required. If improvements in the itinerary can be made, or unforeseen conditions beyond AESU's control make changes necessary, they reserve the right to alter itineraries without penalty. Trip cancellation insurance should be purchased by the individual traveler in the event cancellation of the tour is compelled by circumstances beyond our control. In the event of cancellation due to insufficient number of participants, the Operator's liability shall be limited to a refund of land payments received from applicants, except non-refundable airfare and insurance. If the change or cancellation is due to force majeure or other similar events beyond Operator's control, a refund of land payments received from applicants will be made less reasonable expenses incurred by Operator in respect to applicant's land booking. Baggage and personal injury are at owner's risk entirely. The issuance or acceptance of vouchers or tickets shall be considered consent of the above conditions. AESU reserves the right to increase the program price in the event of cost increases due to changes in airfares, currency fluctuations or fuel surcharges. The airlines concerned and their affiliates and agents are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board the aircrafts. The passenger ticket in use by said airlines, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/ or the passenger. All services are subject to the laws of the country in which these services are rendered. No refund or allowance will be made for absence during the tour, or for activities missed, even if for causes beyond the control of the participant. For complete terms & conditions, please refer to our web site at www.aesu.com.