

IDYLLIC ISTRIA

Discover the beauty of Kvarner Bay & Istria aboard the Queen Eleganza

Spring & Summer 2023









For those who enjoy cruising amongst some of the world's most beautiful coastal scenery and exploring Medieval harbour towns and picturesque villages with a small group of like-minded travellers, our eight night journey along the Istrian coast will surely appeal. With just 36 guests on board, the Queen Eleganza has the advantage of being able to dock centrally in towns and call into secluded bays and hidden coves, enabling us to explore parts of the Istrian coast and islands in Kvarner Bay that passengers aboard the large cruise ships in the region rarely get to visit.

As we make our way along the coast we will witness a range of scenic delights including the charming island of Mali Losinj, the fascinating Brijuni Islands and the ancient town of Porec.

Whilst in Pula, we will visit one of the best-preserved Roman amphitheatres in the world and the strong Venetian influence on the region will be evident during our exploration of Cres. We will also travel inland to an area of disarming beauty characterised by fertile valleys with hilltop villages. Here we explore the village of Motovun, in the middle of truffle territory, which has arguably the best views of the Istrian interior from its ramparts.

Istria is often acclaimed for its gastronomy and we will enjoy some lunches ashore to experience the local cuisine as well as a visit to a vineyard to taste the wines typical of the area. In addition to our included guided excursions, we have allowed ample time at leisure taking advantage of our central moorings, to dine ashore and experience the atmospheric ports in their evening splendour.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Opatija, Croatia. Fly by scheduled flight to Zagreb and transfer to the Queen Eleganza in Opatija. After settling into your cabin, enjoy welcome drinks and dinner. We will moor overnight allowing time to enjoy an evening walk in this genteel resort. **(D)**

Day 2 Rab. We sail during breakfast for the island of Rab. This afternoon we will enjoy some time at leisure and an early evening guided walk through the picturesque Old Town, a perfectly preserved late Medieval Adriatic settlement squeezed into a slender peninsula along which are dotted a sequence of Romanesque campaniles. We have the opportunity this evening to dine ashore and sample one of the many local restaurants and we will remain moored overnight in the harbour. (B, L)

Day 3 Mali Losinj. Spend a relaxing morning on board as we sail to another of Croatia's charming islands. Arrive this afternoon at Mali Losinj which sits at the foot of a protected harbour on the southeast coast of Losinj Island. It is the island's mild climate and rich flora that gave Mali Losinj its reputation as one of the most fragrant islands in Croatia; its air

is scented with lavender, sage and rosemary. The seafront of Mali Losinj old town is lined with a string of imposing 19th century houses and villas. Dine ashore tonight in this stunning location. **(B, L)**

CROATIA

Day 4 Cres. During breakfast we will cruise to the nearby island of Cres, mooring in the sheltered scenic Medieval harbour at Cres Town. Enjoy a walk through the atmospheric streets which have a strong Italian feel having been under Venetian rule in the 15th and 16th centuries. We will continue to the former fort city of Lubenice. Situated on a cliff 378 metres above the sea we will explore the fortress, city gates, houses, chapels and winding streets of this evocative site and enjoy the stunning views over the bay below. Dine ashore this evening and perhaps take a stroll along the seaside promenade. (B, L)

Day 5 Rovinj. Sail today to the atmospheric town of Rovinj where the houses inside the old town are small and lean into each other creating a unique atmosphere. Our guided walking tour will include a visit to the town's main landmark, St Euphemia Church, which is built on the top of a small hill. This











Baroque building built in Venetian style was dedicated to the saint and martyr whose sarcophagus, according to a legend, was miraculously washed ashore sometime around 800 AD. Take the opportunity to dine ashore this evening in one of the delightful local restaurants. (B, L)

Day 6 Motovun & Momjan. After a short sail to Porec we will travel to the Istrian interior, an area famed for its picturesque villages, vineyards producing fine Malvasia and Teran wines and the forests that produce Istrian white truffles. On a morning walking tour we will explore Motovun which is perched on a hill in the Mirna River Valley with its Romanesque-Gothic bell tower, the Renaissance Church of St Stephen designed by Andrea Palladio and the charming central square. After a lunch of local specialities we will head into the agricultural area around Momjan where some of Croatia's finest olives and vines have been grown for thousands of years. We will visit a local vineyard and enjoy a tasting of the Muscat and Malvasia wines which are typical of the region before sampling the olive oil. Return to the ship for dinner on board. (B, L, D)

Day 7 Porec & Brijuni Islands. On a morning walking tour we will discover the compact old town including the 6th century Euphrasian Basilica, a World Heritage Site and one of Europe's finest intact examples of Byzantine art. The basilica, atrium, baptistery and episcopal palace are outstanding examples of religious architecture. Sail in the late morning and arrive this afternoon in the 14 islands of Brijuni, which comprise one of Croatia's

National Parks and were once the summer retreat of former Yugoslav leader, Tito. Between 1947 and 1980 he spent up to six months a year in the islands. We will explore Veliki Brijun including the 1st century Roman Villa, the nine hectare safari park created by Tito to house the exotic animals gifted to him by world leaders and the Church of St Germain. (B, L, D)

Day 8 Pula. Today we arrive at the tip of the Istrian Peninsula and the former Roman settlement of Polensium, now known as Pula. On a morning tour we will discover one of the best preserved Roman amphitheatres left in the world. The Arena, built in the 1st century AD was designed to host gladiatorial contests with seating for up to 20,000 spectators. Exploring the town further we will see the varied architecture from Baroque palaces, Christian churches and Austrian villas. The afternoon is free before we meet for our farewell dinner on board this evening. (B, L, D)

Day 9 Pula to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London. **(B)**

*Please note that the 10th September departure operates in the reverse direction to that shown. Full details can be viewed online at www.noble-caledonia.co.uk

2023 DEPARTURE DATES & PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

 $29^{th}\,April\,to\,\,7^{th}\,May\,|\,\,23^{rd}\,to\,\,31^{st}\,May\,|\,\,16^{th}\,to\,\,24^{th}\,June\,|\,\,10^{th}\,to\,\,18^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,18^{th}\,to\,\,26^{th}\,September^{\bigstar}\,|\,1$

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY Brochure Price Price Price 1. Table 1.

1 Twin/Double cabin on the Lower Deck £3395 £3195 £3395 £3195 2 Twin Cabin on the Main Deck Twin Cabin on the Main Deck £3595 £3395 4 Twin/Double cabin on the Main Deck £3595 £3795 Double cabin on the Main Deck £3995 £3795 £3395 6 Double cabin on the Lower Deck for sole use £3195

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Eight nights aboard the Queen Eleganza • Meals as indicated (B -Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner) • Wine, beer & soft drinks with included lunch and dinners • Shore excursions • Noble Caledonia Cruise Director • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes • Airport taxes. **Not Included:** Travel insurance.









Cat 4 Twin Cabin Queen Eleganza

Restauran

QUEEN ELEGANZA

For our Croatian Coastal cruises, we are delighted to have chartered the beautifully crafted Queen Eleganza which was launched in April 2018. Built by Croatian hands, this modern and stylish vessel is one of the finest Croatian flagged vessels of its kind and, with a maximum of just 36 guests, there is the added benefit of a relaxed and informal atmosphere on board. The team of friendly Croatian crew members all speak English and their excellent service and hospitality will do much to add to your enjoyment. Meals served on board have a home cooked feel and feature wholesome, fresh and tasty Mediterranean cuisine and, when dining ashore independently, your knowledgeable Cruise Director will recommend popular local restaurants. This is the perfect ship to escape the formalities of larger vessels and enjoy the casual nature of small ship cruising along the most beautiful of coastlines.

Your Cabin/Suite

The 18 cabins are attractively designed with neutral décor and stylish furnishings. There are six different grades of cabin arranged over two decks; all cabins feature either portholes (all lower deck cabins), small windows (categories 3 & 5) or picture windows (categories 2 & 4) and are spacious with a well-designed layout, comfortable seating and all the mod cons. The cabins vary in shape and size, from 12m² to 22.5m², adding to the vessel's overall charm. Facilities include air conditioning/heating, a spacious shower, large sink with under sink drawer space, a wardrobe, drawers and spacious under bed storage, flat screen television, radio, hairdryer and safety deposit box. Each cabin also has an ensuite bathroom with a shower and toiletries with a small window.

Your Space

The vessel has been designed with spacious outside public areas including a large Sun Deck with an excellent shaded area. Whether you choose to spend your time indoors in the lounge or bar area, or on a comfortable lounger on the Sun Deck, the ship has many perfect spots from which to relax and watch the passing scenery.

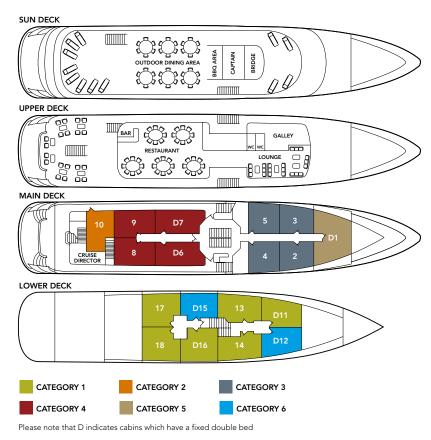
Your Dining

Meals on board are a casual affair. Breakfast is buffet style with eggs cooked to order. Lunch and dinner feature locally sourced fresh food. In good weather, there will be the opportunity to dine al-fresco. House wine/ beer and soft drinks are included with lunch and dinner and there is a 24 hour tea/ coffee station.



Sun Deck

QUEEN ELEGANZA DECK PLAN



NOBLE CALEDONIA



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