



Northern Dalmatia

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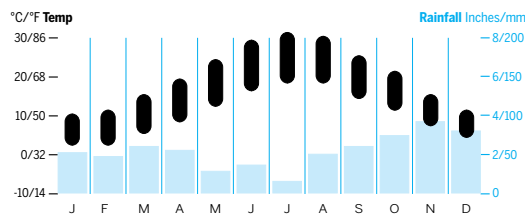
Why Go?

Serving that classic Dalmatian cocktail of historic towns, jewel-like waters, rugged mountains, sun-kissed islands, gorgeous climate and Mediterranean cuisine, this region is a holidaymaker's paradise. Yet it's the cities and islands further south that hog all the limelight, leaving Northern Dalmatia, if not quite undiscovered, then certainly less over-run. Yachties can sail between unpopulated islands without a shred of development, lost in dreams of the Mediterranean of old, while hikers can wander lonely trails where bears and wolves still dwell, and explore three of Croatia's most impressive national parks, which shelter in the hinterland.

By contrast, Zadar is a cultured city rich with museums, Roman ruins, restaurants and hip bars. Meanwhile international clubbers gravitate to Zrće beach and Tisno, which together form the nucleus of Croatia's premier summer clubbing scene.

When to Go

Zadar



Apr–Jun Take advantage of the warming weather and cheaper prices.

Jul & Aug The peak party time in Zrće and Tisno.

Sep & Oct Watch the colours change in Plitvice and Krka National Parks.



Northern Dalmatia Highlights

- 1** Marvelling at the otherworldly turquoise lakes and dramatic waterfalls of **Plitvice Lakes National Park** (p171).
- 2** Strolling alongside gurgling crystalline streams, swimming in a waterfall-fed lake and exploring historic monasteries in **Krka National Park** (p194).
- 3** Discovering Roman ruins, interesting museums, excellent eateries and hip bars within the marbled streets of **Zadar's** (p179) old town.
- 4** Stopping to admire the celebrated architecture of St James' Cathedral while wandering the medieval streets of **Šibenik** (p190).
- 5** Enjoying the sensory delights of **Pag Island** (p176) – sun-scorched scenery, fine wine, rustic cooking, pungent cheese and partying in the sun.
- 6** Seeing the Mediterranean as it looked to the ancients, boating between the unpopulated islands of **Kornati National Park** (p189).