



Split & Central Dalmatia

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Includes ➔

Split	200
Trogir & Around	218
Trogir	218
Makarska	223
Brač Island	226
Supetar	227
Bol.	233
Hvar Island	235
Hvar Town	236
Stari Grad	242
Jelsa	243
Vis Island	244
Vis Town	245

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Pojoda (p247)
- ➔ Villa Spiza (p209)
- ➔ Antika (p243)
- ➔ Lola Konoba & Bar (p247)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Divota Apartment Hotel (p207)
- ➔ Goli + Bosi (p206)
- ➔ Hotel Adriana (p240)
- ➔ Hotel San Giorgio (p246)

Why Go?

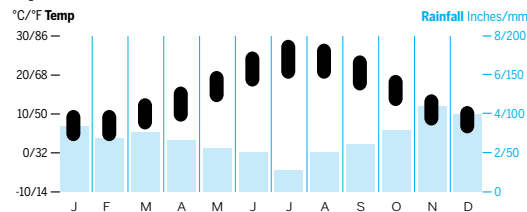
Central Dalmatia is the most action-packed, sight-rich and diverse part of Croatia, with pretty islands, quiet ports, rugged mountains, dozens of castles and an emerging culinary scene, as well as Split's Diocletian's Palace and medieval Trogir (both Unesco World Heritage sites).

Roman ruins, a buzzing Mediterranean-flavoured city and chic dining, wining and partying on the most glamorous isle in the Adriatic, Hvar Island, all vie for visitors' attention. Let's not forget the slender and seductive sand beaches, secluded pebble coves on islands near and far, and gorgeous nudie hideaways. Whatever your beat, this part of Croatia, with the rugged 1500m-high Dinaric Range providing a dramatic background to the coastline, will grip even the pickiest of visitors.

Best of all: Dalmatia is always warmer than Istria or the Kvarner Gulf. You can plunge into the crystalline Adriatic from the middle of May right up until the end of September.

When to Go

Split



May The sea is already warm enough to swim in, so beat the crowds and enjoy sunshine aplenty.

Jul & Aug A full roster of festivals, lots of action wherever you go and the weather is tops.

Sep Come for warm seas and lower prices after the summer hordes have left.

Split & Central Dalmatia Highlights

1 Discovering Split's ancient heart in **Diocletian's Palace** (p200), a quarter that buzzes day and night.

2 Savouring the foodie scene and beautiful beaches of **Vis** (p244), among Croatia's most remote islands.

3 Stretching out on Croatia's sexiest beach, **Zlatni Rat** (p233), in Bol.

4 Soaking up the glamour and partying all out at the seafront bars in **Hvar Town** (p236).

5 Hiking up dramatic **Mt Biokovo** (p225) and enjoying views of Italy from the top.

6 Taking in the remarkably preserved ancient architecture of tiny **Trogir** (p218), the World Heritage star of Central Dalmatia.

7 Exploring the dreamy interior of **Hvar Island** (p235), with its endless fields of lavender, stretching sea vistas and abandoned hamlets.

