Cruising the
ADRIATIC
Best of Slovenia and Croatia aboard Queen Eleganza
With Williams Professor Emerita & food scholar Darra Goldstein
June 20–July 1, 2023
Dear Alumni, Parents, and Friends,

We invite you to join fellow Ephs and Williams Professor Emerita Darra Goldstein aboard a modern, 18-cabin yacht for an early summer cruise along the spectacular coast of Croatia. Through the centuries, Romans, Byzantines, Venetians, Ottomans, and Austrians have vied for control of this strategic coastline that is dotted with over 1,000 islands. In a region well worth exploring for its natural beauty alone, you will visit spellbinding archaeological sites, impressive cathedrals, dramatic palaces, and ancient city centers.

Begin the program in Slovenia’s capital city, Ljubljana, a city with roots back to Roman times. Discover magical Lake Bled, monumental karst caves, and mountain aeries before continuing to Pula, Croatia, to begin your seven-night Adriatic cruise from the Istrian Peninsula to Dubrovnik, visiting Mali Losinj, Zadar, Krka National Park, Šibenik, Split, Hvar, and Korčula along the way. A leisurely pace allows for free time in towns to sample local cuisine and mingle with locals.

An expert study leader will enrich your travel experience and understanding of the ancient and medieval history of this region through an onboard series of stimulating lectures as well as informal discussions. In addition, excellent local guides will accompany you on excursions throughout the program.

Launched in 2018, the intimate Queen Eleganza yacht features a casual ambiance and the ability to call at small islands and ports inaccessible to larger cruise ships. With space for only 30 travelers aboard the ship, we urge you to reserve your cabin today by calling Criterion Travel at (888) 328-2089 or emailing res@criteriontravel.com while space and your cabin of choice are available. We hope you will join us!

With kind regards,

Leila Derstine
Director of Alumni Engagement Programs
Williams College
alumni-travel@williams.edu

Please review the Williams College participation agreement information here: https://bit.ly/WilliamsAlumTravel-Agreement
Highlights

♦ Marvel at the well-preserved Roman ruins of Emperor Diocletian’s palace at Split and Pula’s amphitheater and temple.

♦ Explore Krka National Park’s magnificent waterfalls and splashing cascades in a magical landscape.

♦ Delve into the historic grandeur of Dubrovnik, known as the “Pearl of the Adriatic.” Swim in the pristine waters of the Kornati Archipelago.

♦ Moor at or near town centers aboard the yacht-like Queen Eleganza, with easy walk-off access to explore independently.

Study Leader

Darra Goldstein is the Willcox B. and Harriet M. Adsit Professor of Russian, Emerita at Williams College. The founding editor of the journal Gastronomica, she is also the author of six award-winning cookbooks. Darra has consulted for the Council of Europe on using food as a tool for tolerance and diversity and has held distinguished fellowships in food studies at the University of Toronto and the University of Melbourne. She currently sits on the board of the Julia Child Foundation for Gastronomy and the Culinary Arts and is a member of the advisory “Kitchen Cabinet” of the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. In 2020 she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Association of Culinary Professionals.
Tuesday–Wednesday, June 20–21
Home / Ljubljana, Slovenia
Depart home on an overnight flight to Ljubljana. Upon arrival, transfer to the Grand Hotel Union located within the historic center of the city and gather for a festive welcome dinner featuring Slovenian specialties.

GRAND HOTEL UNION (R,D)

Thursday, June 22
Ljubljana
After a morning lecture, set out on a walking tour of the historic center, which is off limits to automobiles, and visit the sprawling Central Market. See the famous Dragon Bridge and explore the ancient Roman wall. After lunch, venture to the lovely and impossibly blue Lake Bled and ride gondola-like Pletna boats to visit Slovenia’s only island, a picturesque outpost in the center of the lake. Dinner is at your leisure in Ljubljana this evening.

GRAND HOTEL UNION (B,L)

Friday, June 23
Portorož
Travel by coach to the UNESCO-designated ancient Škocjan Karst Caves, a vast network of tunnels and chambers sometimes referred to as the “underground Grand Canyon.” Settle in at the luxurious Kempinski Palace Hotel near the oceanfront promenade of Portorož, “the French Riviera” of Slovenia, followed by a sunset dinner at the historic Venetian stronghold Piran.
KEMPINSKI PALACE HOTEL (B,D)

Saturday, June 24
Pula, Croatia
Cross the border into Croatia and drive to Pula by way of the scenic mountaintop village of Motovun on the Istrian Peninsula. Explore the well-preserved Roman ruins including the impressive colosseum, the only Roman amphitheater in the world with a complete circle wall. Embark Queen Eleganza this evening in time for a welcome reception and dinner.
QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L,D)

Sunday, June 25
Mali Lošinj
Relax on the sun deck while cruising the scenic coastline to Mali Lošinj, a lovely town with a rich maritime legacy thanks to its unique long natural harbor. Explore the bustling seafront, lined with imposing 19th-century houses and villas, and enjoy free time in town for dinner and individual pursuits.
QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L)

Monday, June 26
Zadar
Spend the morning cruising through the coastal islands and enjoying the educational program en route to Zadar, with stops for swimming also possible. The impressive but less-crowded city of Zadar boasts a rich history that dates as far back as the Neolithic Era. The streets of the old town are paved with shining white marble, and the inviting waterfront is a magnet for art lovers. Spend the evening at leisure exploring Roman ruins, Venetian architecture, and street-side cafés.
QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L)

Tuesday, June 27
Krka National Park / Split
Board a coach and drive to Krka National Park, one of Croatia’s most-loved National Parks, known for its series of cascading waterfalls, picturesque pools, and acres of lush vegetation. Take guided walks on wooden walkways and bridges through this magical landscape. Then tour the UNESCO World Heritage Cathedral of St. James in nearby Šibenik, and enjoy lunch on your own in town. Continue to Split, Croatia’s fashionable second-largest city.
QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,D)
Wednesday, June 28
Split / Hvar
Visit Roman Emperor Diocletian’s Palace, an ancient fortress-like complex spread along the Split waterfront, and enjoy more free time in the city before cruising to lavender-scented Hvar Island. Stroll along the elegant main square of Hvar, with views of St. Stephen’s Cathedral, distinguished by its tall, rectangular bell tower, and the 15th-century Franciscan Monastery, whose refectory contains a 1524 edition of Ptolemy’s Atlas.
QUEEN ELEGANZA (B)

Friday, June 30
Dubrovnik
Noted for its expansive walls and red tile rooftops, Dubrovnik is perhaps the most-visited destination on the Adriatic coast. This morning explore the sites along the city’s main street, the marble-clad Stradun, including Onofrio’s Fountain, St. Blaise’s Church, the Rector’s Palace, and the Franciscan Church and Monastery, a large complex belonging to the Order of the Friars Minor and consisting of a monastery, church, library, and pharmacy, the latter of which dates from A.D. 1317. Enjoy free time in the afternoon to explore the maze of alleyways and Renaissance-era architecture before a farewell dinner on board.
QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L,D)

Saturday, July 1
Dubrovnik / Home
Disembark this morning and transfer to the Dubrovnik airport for flights home.
(B)

Sample some of Croatia’s famous wines, including the white wine made from pošip grapes that grow primarily on Korčula, as well as local dining specialties.
QUEEN ELEGANZA (B,L)

Thursday, June 29
Korčula
Cruise to the fortified town of Korčula, perched on a promontory on its namesake island. Take a walking tour of the narrow, stepped streets and enjoy a wine tasting with accompanying local specialties. Korčula is rich in vineyards and olive groves, picturesque villages, a glorious old town, and age-old religious ceremonies, folk music, and dance traditions.
The yacht-like Queen Eleganza, launched in the spring of 2018, was beautifully crafted in Croatia specifically to cruise the Adriatic coastline. With its small number of travelers, there is a relaxed and informal atmosphere on board. The 18 cabins are finished to high standards with sleek lines and neutral colors. The bar/restaurant and lounge boast comfortable seating areas, large windows, and complimentary tea/coffee. Meals are served in a single seating and feature fresh and tasty Mediterranean cuisine.

**Program Rates (per person)**

<table>
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<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>DOUBLE</th>
<th>SINGLE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A (LOWER DECK) 161 sq ft; queen bed; two portholes</td>
<td>$7,990</td>
<td>$11,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B (LOWER DECK) 156–178 sq ft; twins or queen; two portholes</td>
<td>$8,990</td>
<td>$12,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C (MAIN DECK) 156–172 sq ft; twin beds; 3 windows</td>
<td>$9,990</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D (MAIN DECK) 151 sq ft; twins or queen; large picture window; cabins 8 &amp; 9 have partially obstructed views</td>
<td>$10,990</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E (MAIN DECK) 242 sq ft; king size bed; 4 windows</td>
<td>$11,990</td>
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**Program Rates Include**

- All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary, including three hotel nights and seven nights aboard Queen Eleganza
- Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures, and presentations
- Transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates
- Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers, and shipboard personnel for all group activities
- Entrance fees and port charges
- Welcome and farewell wine receptions
- House wine, beer, and soft drinks with all group lunches and dinners
- Complete packet of pre-departure information
- Professional tour manager throughout the program
- Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures, and presentations
- Transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates
- Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers, and shipboard personnel for all group activities
- Entrance fees and port charges
- Welcome and farewell wine receptions
- House wine, beer, and soft drinks with all group lunches and dinners
- Complete packet of pre-departure information
- Professional tour manager throughout the program

**Group Size**

This program is limited to 30 participants and is exclusive to Williams Alumni Travel Study.

**What To Expect**

The pace of this tour is moderately active with considerable walking each day, often over very uneven and cobblestoned terrain, and extended periods of standing. The ship has no elevator, so guests should be capable of navigating stairs on rolling seas. Participants must be in good health and able to keep up with the group without assistance from tour staff. As of publication, SARS-COV-2 (COVID 19) vaccinations are required for all participants as well as tour staff and shipboard crew. Up-to-date COVID-related protocols and procedures will be communicated in pre-trip documents. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Williams Alumni Travel Study or Criterion Travel, our tour operator; local staff; and host country laws.
GENERAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Information about optional trip cancellation insurance will be provided by Williams Alumni Travel Study upon confirmation of your booking.

ITINERARY CHANGES

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Williams Alumni Travel Study and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, we reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation will be the responsibility of the participant.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Complete Terms and Conditions including Statement of Responsibility will be made available to you at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed "Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required from each applicant prior to participation.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

A deposit of $1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. To register, please call Criterion Travel at (888) 328-2089 or email res@critierontravel.com. You may also complete the reservation form included in this brochure and mail it with your check or credit card information to: Criterion Travel, 4250 SW Hall Blvd, Beaverton, OR 97005. Or you may fax the completed reservation form to (650) 560-6400. Final payment deadline is February 20, 2023. For those who register after February 20, 2023, full payment is due upon registration. Final payment must be made by check or bank transfer.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

Upon payment of the deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be in effect until they are received in writing and confirmed by Criterion Travel. Deposits are refundable (less a $250 per person admin fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of booking, after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. After the February 20, 2023 final payment deadline, all payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. We highly recommend a travel insurance policy with "Cancel for Any Reason" (CFAR) coverage. If a staff member is unable to participate, no refund will be made, but Criterion Travel will make every effort to find a replacement with similar qualifications. NO EXCEPTIONS: Neither the President and Trustees of Williams College, as sponsor, nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalties incurred with the purchase of non-refundable tickets.

NAME #1 (as it appears on passport)  BIRTHDATE

NAME #2 (as it appears on passport)  BIRTHDATE

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP or POSTAL CODE

HOME PHONE  MOBILE PHONE

E-MAIL 1

E-MAIL 2

PAYMENT

Please charge the deposit to my credit card (circle one):

VISA  MC  AMEX  DISCOVER

NAME ON CREDIT CARD

CARD #:  EXP. DATE  SECURITY CODE

SIGNATURE AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD  DATE

Enclosed is my check for $____ (1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel) to reserve ____ place(s) on Cruising the Adriatic

SINGLE TRAVELERS

I prefer to have single accommodations (limited availability) or I plan to share accommodations with:

or  I’d like to know about roommates

I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of February 20, 2023 I will pay the single rate.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Cabin category preference:

1st Choice  2nd Choice

Bed Preference (not guaranteed):  One bed  Two beds

We have read the Terms & Conditions section of this brochure and understand and agree with them as stated herein:

SIGNATURE  DATE

SIGNATURE  DATE

For more information or to reserve by phone, please call: (888) 328-2089 or (650) 328-2089; or by email: res@critierontravel.com. You may also complete and return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel, to: Criterion Travel, 4250 SW Hall Blvd., Beaverton, OR 97005.
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Best of Slovenia and Croatia aboard Queen Eleganza
With culinary expert Darra Goldstein
June 20–July 1, 2023

alumni.williams.edu/travel
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