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FOREIGN VESSELS ON CRUISE IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA January – December 2023

In 2023, more vessels on cruise sailed across the waters of the Croatian Adriatic Sea with more passengers on board than in 2022

In 2023, foreign vessels on cruise realised an increase of 2.2% in journeys in the waters of the Croatian Adriatic Sea with 37.1% more passengers on board compared to 2022. Due to the increase in the number of journeys of foreign vessels on cruise in the last four months, the number of journeys at the annual level also rose compared to 2022. Moreover, in 2023 foreign vessels on cruise spent more time in Croatia, by 11.3% compared to 2022.

The comparison between 2023 and 2019 data shows that there are still consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on cruises of foreign vessels in the waters of the Croatian Adriatic Sea. Thus, in 2023, as compared to 2019, there were 11.0% less journeys of foreign vessels on cruise and 22.5% less passengers on board, while the number of sojourns of foreign vessels on cruise increased by 0.5%.

A total of 85 foreign vessels on cruise arrived

In 2023, there were 85 foreign vessels on cruise that arrived in Croatian seaports, which made 646 journeys. There were 869 thousand passengers on board who stayed in the Republic of Croatia for 1 474 days. Out of the total of 646 cruises of foreign vessels, most of them were recorded in August (107 journeys), June (102 journeys) and October (95 journeys), which accounted for 47.1% of the journeys. The remaining 52.9% of the journeys were realised in other months of 2023.

In 2023, foreign vessels on cruise sailed under the flags of 14 countries. As usual, the highest number of journeys of foreign vessels on cruise was realised under the flag of Malta, as many as 191 journeys, which accounted for 29.6% of the total journeys made in 2023. These were followed by journeys made under the flags of the Bahamas (167 journeys), Panama (68 journeys) and Norway (53 journeys).

Out of a total of 646 journeys of foreign vessels on cruise, the highest number was realised in the County of Dubrovnik-Neretva (48.1%) and the County of Split-Dalmatia (26.9%), which made up a total of 75.0% of journeys. The remaining 25.0% of journeys were made in the following counties: Zadar (11.8%), Istria (4.7%), Šibenik-Knin (4.5%) and Primorje-Gorski kotar (4.0%).

Dubrovnik seaport was traditionally the most visited port

The highest number of visits of foreign vessels on cruise was realised in the seaport of Dubrovnik (475 visits), followed by the seaports of Split (300 visits), Zadar (160 visits), Hvar (110 visits), Korčula (101 visits), Šibenik (89 visits) and Rovinj (63 visits).

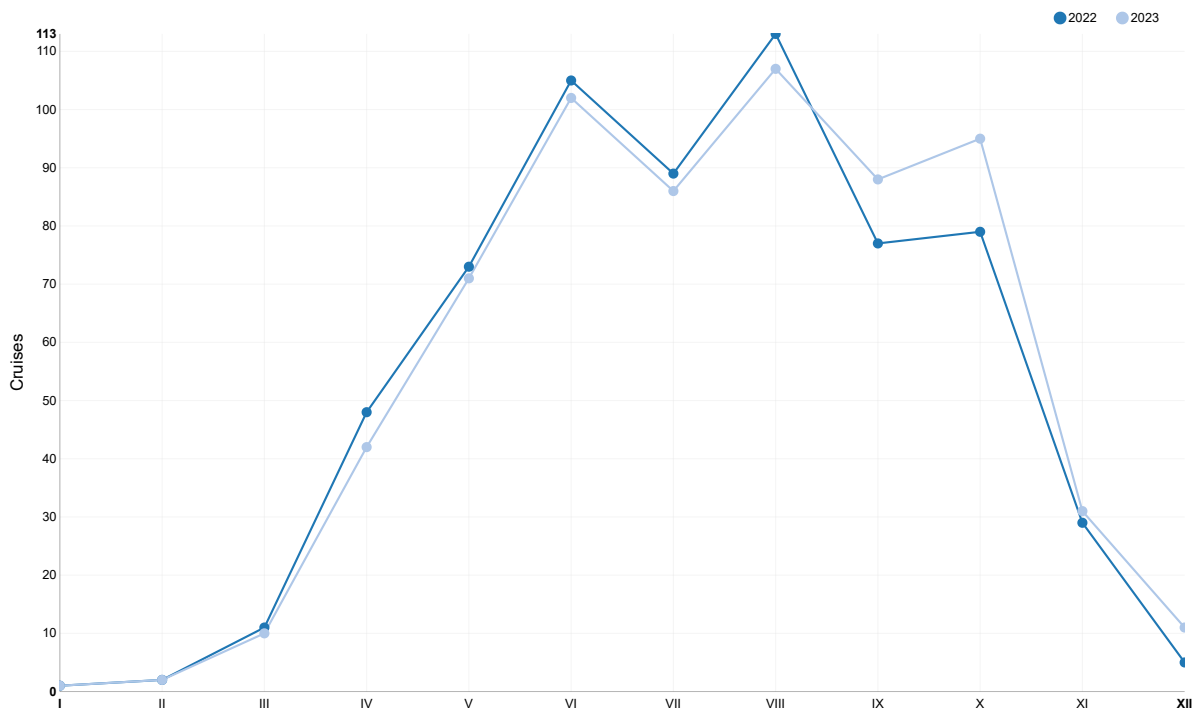
Notice

Detailed monthly data are available on the website of the [Croatian Bureau of Statistics](#), under "PC-Axis databases", where it is possible to browse and print data in various forms. Databases are updated annually.

1 FOREIGN VESSELS ON CRUISE

	I – XII 2022	I – XII 2023	Indices I – XII 2023 I – XII 2022
Foreign vessels on cruise	82	85	103,7
Cruises	632	646	102,2
Sojourns	1 324	1 474	111,3
Passengers on board	633 697	868 542	137,1

G-1 FOREIGN VESSELS ON CRUISE IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA, BY MONTHS, 2022 AND 2023



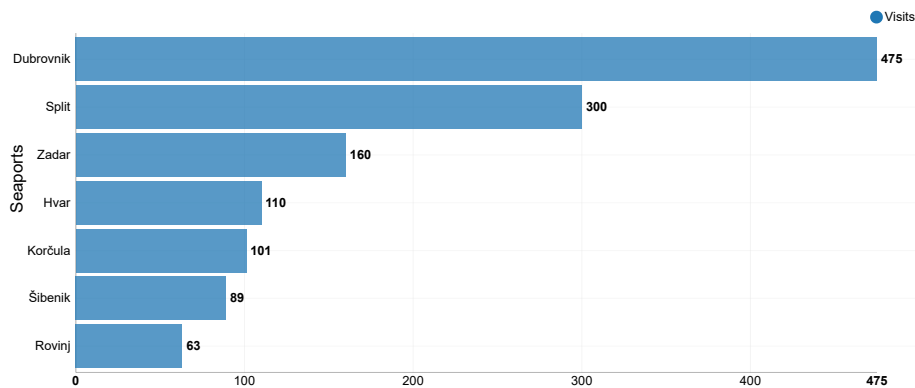
2 FOREIGN VESSELS ON CRUISE, SOJOURNS AND PASSENGERS, BY FLAG OF VESSEL, JANUARY – DECEMBER 2023

Flag of vessel	Cruises		Sojourns		Passengers on board	
	XII	I – XII	XII	I – XII	XII	I – XII
Total	11	646	40	1 474	8 361	868 542
Bahamas	-	167	-	392	-	247 632
Belgium	-	25	-	143	-	3 742
Bermuda	-	16	-	30	-	41 786
France	-	19	-	45	-	3 622
Greece	-	2	-	2	-	24
Italy	4	46	4	47	8 097	102 547
Malta	7	191	36	539	264	227 430
Marshall Islands	-	27	-	35	-	22 954
Netherlands	-	11	-	15	-	22 768
Norway	-	53	-	96	-	47 602
Wallis and Futuna	-	15	-	40	-	2 393
Panama	-	68	-	72	-	142 409
Portugal	-	2	-	11	-	201
United Kingdom	-	4	-	7	-	3 432

3 FOREIGN VESSELS ON CRUISE, SOJOURNS AND PASSENGERS, BY MONTHS, 2022 AND 2023

	Cruises			Sojourns			Passengers on board		
	2022	2023	Indices 2023 2022	2022	2023	Indices 2023 2022	2022	2023	Indices 2023 2022
Total	632	646	102,2	1 324	1 474	111,3	633 697	868 542	137,1
I	1	1	100,0	1	1	100,0	485	944	194,6
II	2	2	100,0	3	21	700,0	1 257	94	7,5
III	11	10	90,9	25	50	200,0	4 098	3 606	88,0
IV	48	42	87,5	98	85	86,7	34 603	54 909	158,7
V	73	71	97,3	151	142	94,0	56 389	103 002	182,7
VI	105	102	97,1	188	237	126,1	91 867	120 281	130,9
VII	89	86	96,6	192	197	102,6	105 264	128 563	122,1
VIII	113	107	94,7	269	237	88,1	129 638	151 975	117,2
IX	77	88	114,3	174	189	108,6	82 375	121 853	147,9
X	79	95	120,3	153	190	124,2	89 957	137 013	152,3
XI	29	31	106,9	65	85	130,8	29 448	37 941	128,8
XII	5	11	220,0	5	40	800,0	8 316	8 361	100,5

G-2 THE MOST VISITED SEAPORTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA, JANUARY – DECEMBER 2023



NOTES ON METHODOLOGY

The purpose of the statistical survey

The statistical survey is aimed at monitoring the entries of foreign cruise vessels in the territorial sea of the Republic of Croatia, the number of passengers aboard and the days on which a ship stays in the territorial sea of the Republic of Croatia. The results of this survey provide indicators used in the analysis of tourism in the Republic of Croatia.

Legal basis

The survey is carried out on the basis of the Official Statistics Act (NN, No. 25/20).

Sources and methods of data collection

The data source for the statistical survey on cruises of foreign vessels in the Republic of Croatia is the Croatian Integrated Maritime Information System (CIMIS). The Croatian Bureau of Statistics takes over a part of the database from the Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure, after which it performs further processing.

Among other data, ships submit information on the ship, journey and passengers to this system through authorised maritime agents and shippers. The accuracy and completeness of the data in the official proceedings of registration is verified by harbour master's offices.

Coverage and comparability

Observation unit for this survey is a foreign vessel on a tourist cruise journey that enters the territorial sea of the Republic of Croatia.

In the tables 1, 2 and 3, the data on foreign cruise vessels include only **seaports of the first entry** of the foreign cruise vessel into the territorial sea of the Republic of Croatia.

In the Graph G-2, the data on visits of foreign cruise vessels include **all seaports** visited by these vessels during their stay in the territorial sea of the Republic of Croatia. Visits to seaports are presented by statistical seaports consisting of one or more ports, normally controlled by harbour master's branch offices able to record ship and cargo movements.

Definitions

Cruise vessel means a passenger ship intended to provide passengers with pleasure of journey and facilities for entertainment aboard (luxurious atmosphere, adventures, education, culture, entertainment, sports activities, wellness or recreation) rather than transport of persons from one seaport to another. It is equipped for a multi-day stay of passengers aboard and must provide food, drinks and accommodation services. On its journey, a foreign cruise vessel stops at seaports that are interesting tourist destinations.

Journey is an entry of a foreign cruise vessel at the first seaport of the territorial sea of the Republic of Croatia.

Visit is an entry of a foreign cruise vessel at every seaport of the territorial sea of the Republic of Croatia.

Passengers on board are persons who arrived by ship irrespective of their age, provided that they are not crew members.

Sojourns represent a total number of days a ship spends in the territorial sea of the Republic of Croatia.

Flag of vessel represents the country in which a ship was registered, that is, entered in the ship's registry and complies with its legislation.

Statistical seaport consists of one or more ports, normally controlled by harbour master's branch offices able to record ship and cargo movements.

Abbreviations

COVID-19 COrona Vlrus Disease-19
NN Narodne novine, official gazette of the Republic of Croatia

Symbols

- no occurrence

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