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FOREIGN VESSELS ON CRUISE IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
January – September 2026

Two-digit increase in the number of passengers on foreign vessels on cruise in the first nine months of 2026

In the period from January to September 2026, there were **80** foreign vessels on cruise that arrived in Croatian seaports, which made a total of **677** journeys. There were **958 thousand** passengers on board those vessels, who stayed in Croatia for **1 557** days.

Compared to the same period of 2025, the number of foreign vessels on cruise that arrived in the territorial waters of the Republic of Croatia decreased by 1.2%, while other indicators increased. The number of journeys of those vessels increased by 9.9%, the number of passengers on those journeys by 11.7%, and the number of days spent by those vessels in the territorial waters of the Republic of Croatia by 7.7%.

Vessels under the flags of Malta realised the most cruise journeys

In the first three quarters of 2026, foreign vessels on cruise arrived in Croatian seaports under the flags of 15 countries. The highest number of journeys of foreign vessels on cruise was realised under the flag of Malta, a total of 201 journeys, which accounted for 29.7% of the total realised journeys in the first nine months of 2026. These were followed by journeys of foreign vessels realised under the flags of the Bahamas (174 journeys), Norway (66 journeys) and Panama (52 journeys).

Out of the total of 677 journeys of foreign vessels on cruise, the highest number was realised in the County of Dubrovnik-Neretva (46.5%) and the County of Split-Dalmatia (25.1%), which made up a total of 71.6% of journeys. The remaining 28.4% of journeys were realised in the following counties: Zadar (12.0%), Istria (7.5%), Šibenik-Knin (4.9%), and Primorje-Gorski Kotar (4.0%).

Dubrovnik, Split and Zadar seaports recorded the most visits

The most visited Croatian seaport for foreign vessels on cruise was the seaport of Dubrovnik, with a total of 505 visits in the first nine months of 2026. It was followed by

the seaports of Split (284 visits), Zadar (191 visits), Korčula (95 visits), Hvar (89 visits), Rovinj (84 visits), and Šibenik (81 visits).

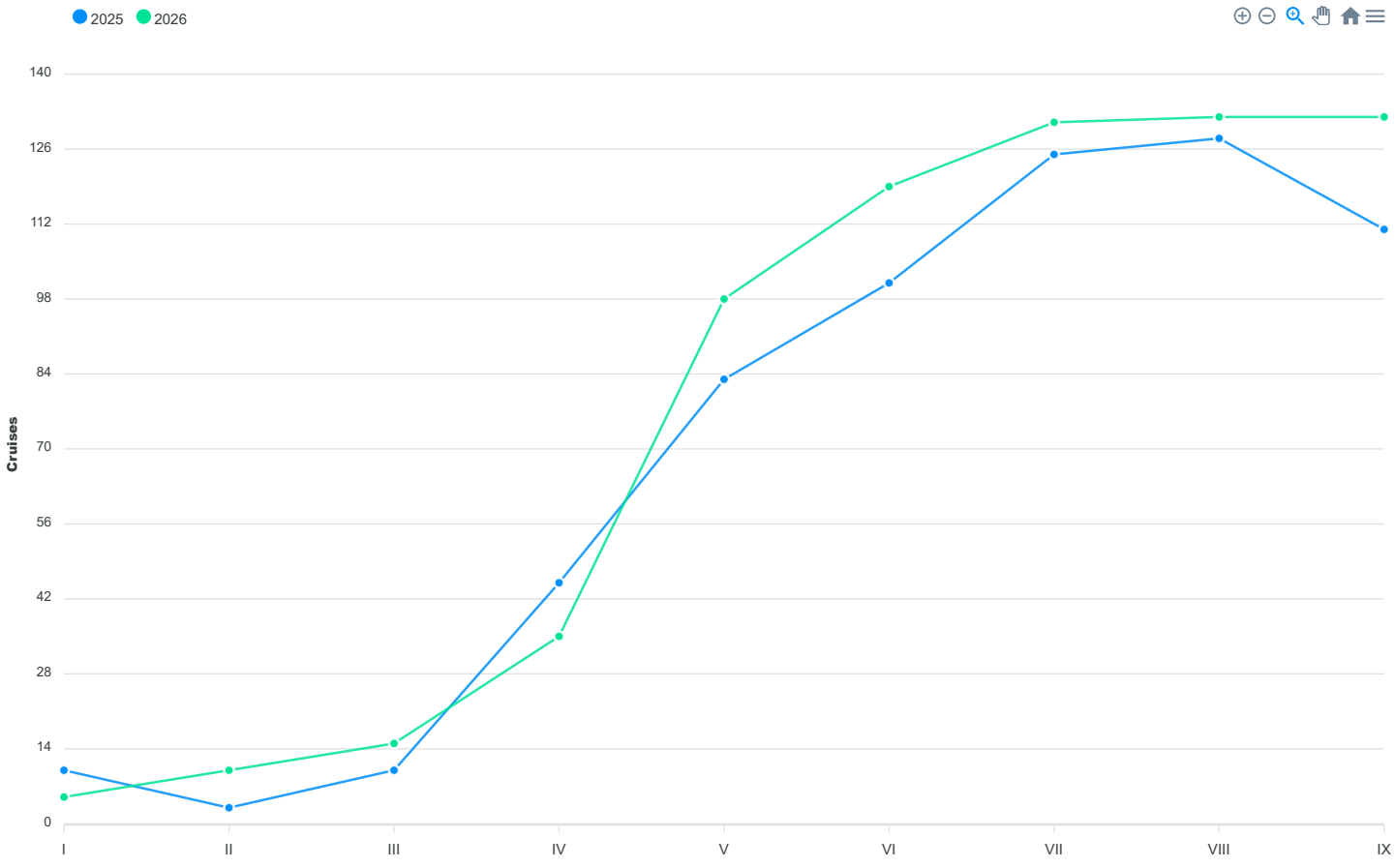
Notice

Detailed 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. The databases are updated annually.

1 FOREIGN VESSELS ON CRUISE

	I – IX 2025	I – IX 2026	Indices I – IX 2026 / I – IX 2025
Foreign vessels on cruise	81	80	98,8
Cruises	616	677	109,9
Sojourns	1 446	1 557	107,7
Passengers on board	858 066	958 109	111,7

G-1 FOREIGN VESSELS ON CRUISE IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA, BY MONTHS, 2025 AND 2026



2 FOREIGN VESSELS ON CRUISE, SOJOURNS AND PASSENGERS, BY FLAG OF VESSEL, JANUARY – SEPTEMBER 2026

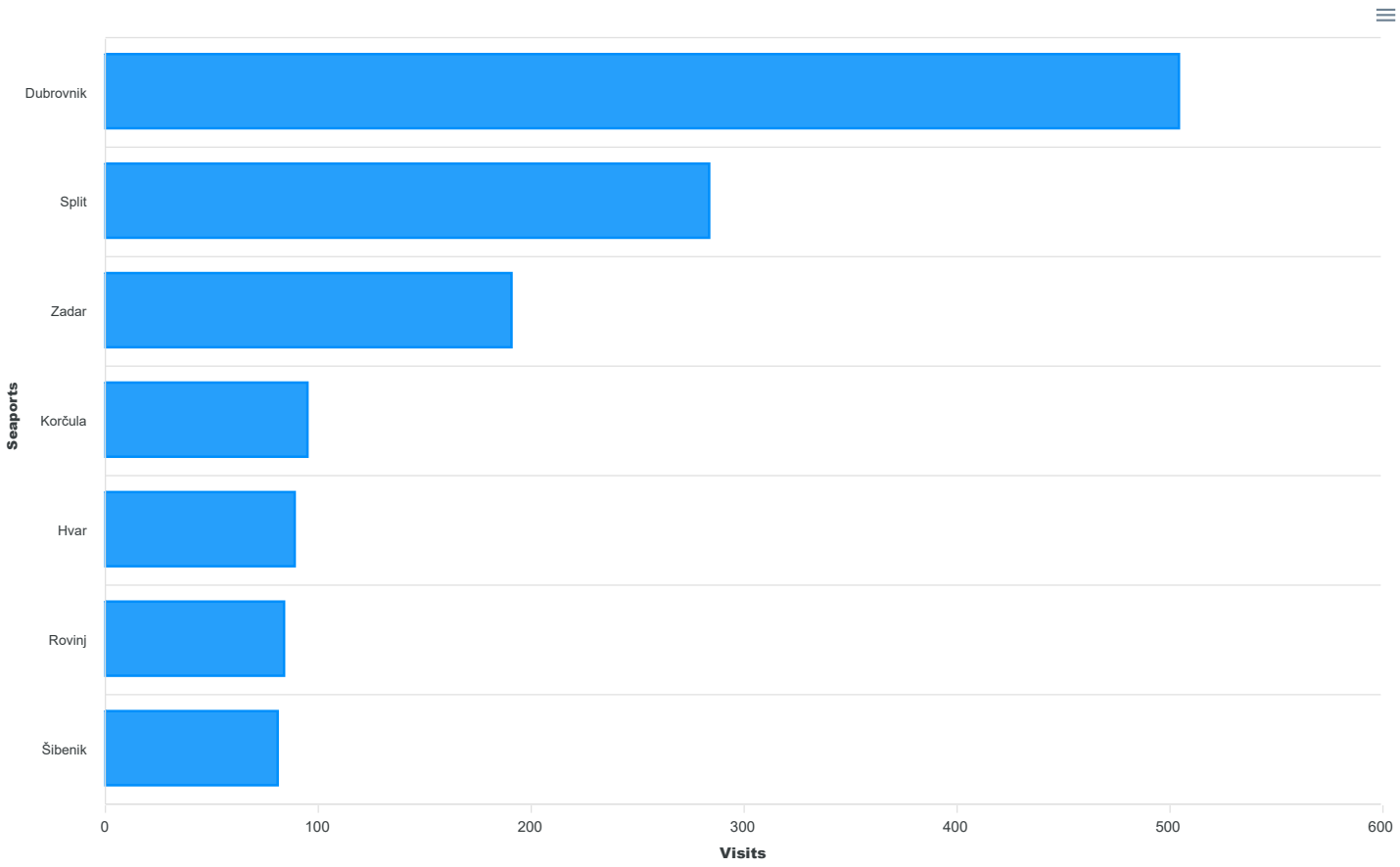
Flag of vessel	Cruises		Sojourns		Passengers on board	
	IX	I – IX	IX	I – IX	IX	I – IX
Total	132	677	275	1 557	184 523	958 109
Bahamas	31	174	57	378	46 562	294 569
Belgium	5	24	27	143	831	3 731
Bermuda	7	37	13	57	17 847	101 393
France	10	33	24	119	1 720	4 322
Greece	-	2	-	13	-	57
Italy	5	31	6	49	11 844	78 384
Malta	43	201	95	513	68 434	265 838
Marshall Islands	6	38	14	64	3 935	28 772
Netherlands	3	5	4	7	5 846	9 639
Norway	10	66	17	113	8 979	59 592
Wallis and Futuna	1	4	3	17	137	854
Panama	9	52	9	55	18 051	108 900
Portugal	2	7	6	16	337	1 045
St. Vincent & Northern Grenadines	-	2	-	7	-	104
United Kingdom	-	1	-	6	-	909

3 FOREIGN VESSELS ON CRUISE, SOJOURNS AND PASSENGERS, BY MONTHS, 2025 AND 2026

	Cruises			Sojourns			Passengers on board		
	2025	2026	Indices 2026 / 2025	2025	2026	Indices 2026 / 2025	2025	2026	Indices 2026 / 2025
Total	616	677	109,9	1 446	1 557	107,7	858 066	958 109	111,7
I	10	5	50,0	46	17	37,0	4 052	2 000	49,4
II	3	10	333,3	19	42	221,1	142	3 489	[1]
III	10	15	150,0	50	67	134,0	3 511	10 756	306,4
IV	45	35	77,8	79	80	101,3	67 842	47 460	70,0
V	83	98	118,1	162	199	122,8	131 954	157 775	119,6
VI	101	119	117,8	224	267	119,2	136 871	169 669	124,0
VII	125	131	104,8	295	285	96,6	171 846	196 389	114,3
VIII	128	132	103,1	332	325	97,9	175 616	186 048	105,9
IX	111	132	118,9	239	275	115,1	166 232	184 523	111,0

1) The index exceeds 999.

G-2 THE MOST VISITED SEAPORTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA, JANUARY – SEPTEMBER 2026



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, Nos 25/20, 155/23, 124/25 – corr. and 69/26).

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 are 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 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 Graph G-2, the data on the 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 the 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 cruise vessel stops at seaports that are interesting tourist destinations.

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

Visit is an entry of a foreign cruise vessel into 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

NN Narodne novine, official gazette of the Republic of Croatia

Symbols

- no occurrence

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