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# FOREIGN VESSELS ON CRUISE IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA January – December 2024

## **In 2024, more vessels on cruise sailed across the waters of the Croatian Adriatic Sea with more passengers on board than in 2023**

In 2024, foreign vessels on cruise realised an increase of 13.9% in journeys in the waters of the Croatian Adriatic Sea with 20.8% more passengers on board compared to 2023. Moreover, in 2024, foreign vessels on cruise spent more time in Croatia, by 14.7% compared to 2023.

## **A total of 86 foreign vessels on cruise arrived in Croatian seaports**

In 2024, there were **86** foreign vessels on cruise that arrived in Croatian seaports, which made **736** journeys. There were **1.0 million** passengers on board who stayed in the Republic of Croatia for 1 690 days.

In 2024, foreign vessels on cruise sailed under the flags of 15 countries. As usual, the highest number of journeys of foreign vessels on cruise was realised under the flag of Malta, as many as 227 journeys, which accounted for 30.8% of the total journeys realised in 2024. These were followed by journeys of foreign vessels realised under the flags of the Bahamas (194 journeys), Panama (76 journeys) and Norway (58 journeys).

## **The highest number of cruises in September, October and July 2024**

Out of a total of 736 journeys of foreign vessels on cruise, the highest number was realised in September (119 journeys), October (115 journeys) and July (113 journeys), which accounted for a total of 47.1% journeys. The remaining 52.9% of journeys were realised in the remaining months of 2024. All three of the above months of 2024 recorded an increase in the number of journeys and the number of passengers as compared to the same months of the previous year.

Out of a total of 736 journeys of foreign vessels on cruise, the highest number was realised in the County of Dubrovnik-Neretva (46.6%) and the County of Split-Dalmatia (24.2%), which made up a total of 70.8% of journeys. The remaining 29.2% of journeys were realised in the following counties: Zadar (13.7%), Istria and Primorje-Gorski kotar (5.7% each) and in Šibenik-Knin (4.1%).

## **Dubrovnik seaport is still the most visited port**

The highest number of visits of foreign vessels on cruise was realised in the seaport of Dubrovnik (513 visits), followed by the seaports of Split (331 visits), Zadar (219 visits), Hvar (118 visits), Korčula (105 visits), Šibenik (84 visits) and Rovinj (75 visits).

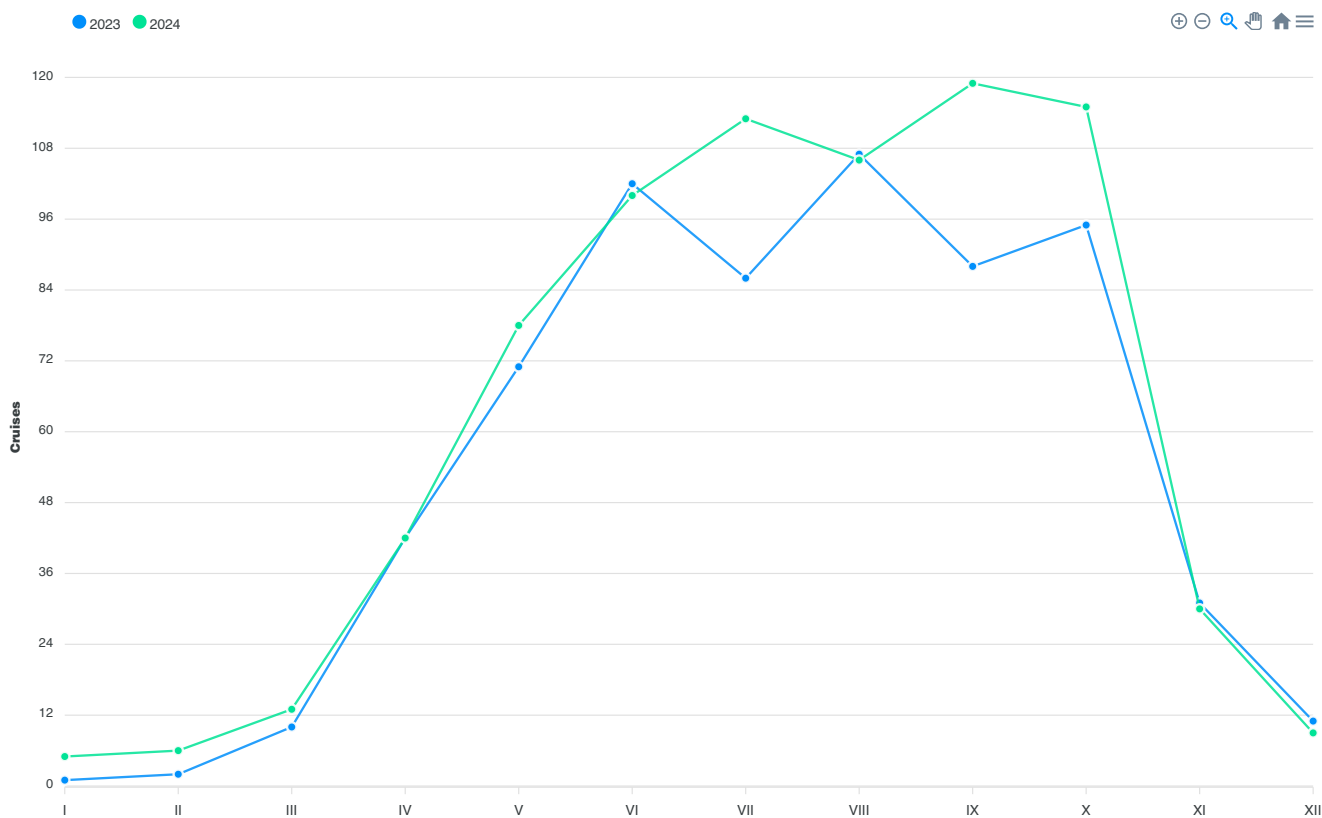
## **Notice**

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 – XII 2023	I – XII 2024	Indices I – XII 2024 I – XII 2023
Foreign vessels on cruise	85	86	101,2
Cruises	646	736	113,9
Sojourns	1 474	1 690	114,7
Passengers on board	868 542	1 048 916	120,8

## G-1 FOREIGN VESSELS ON CRUISE IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA, BY MONTHS, 2023 AND 2024



## 2 FOREIGN VESSELS ON CRUISE, SOJOURNS AND PASSENGERS, BY FLAG OF VESSEL, JANUARY – DECEMBER 2024

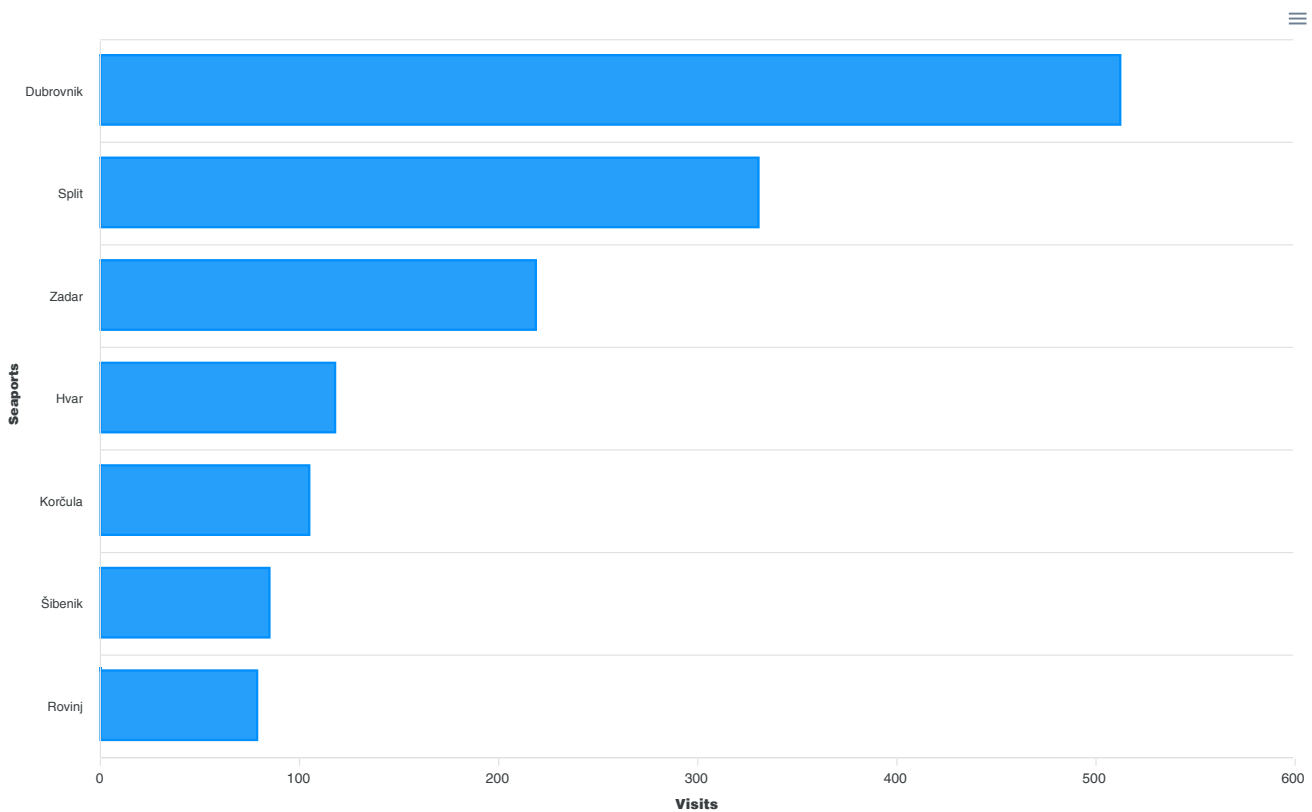
Flag of vessel	Cruises		Sojourns		Passengers on board	
	XII	I – XII	XII	I – XII	XII	I – XII
Total	9	736	48	1 690	6 185	1 048 916
Bahamas	-	194	-	448	-	325 983
Belgium	-	18	-	94	-	2 714
Bermuda	-	29	-	45	-	69 846
France	-	37	-	119	-	5 415
Greece	-	2	-	17	-	57
Italy	3	43	4	45	5 439	99 914
Malta	5	227	42	660	237	274 510
Marshall Islands	-	25	-	34	-	27 754
Netherlands	-	10	-	16	-	21 552
Norway	1	58	2	97	509	52 660
Wallis and Futuna Islands	-	2	-	3	-	693
Panama	-	76	-	77	-	163 686
Portugal	-	8	-	14	-	2 096
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	-	5	-	18	-	233
United Kingdom	-	2	-	3	-	1 803

## 3 FOREIGN VESSELS ON CRUISE, SOJOURNS AND PASSENGERS, BY MONTHS, 2023 AND 2024

	Cruises			Sojourns			Passengers on board		
	2023	2024	Indices 2024 2023	2023	2024	Indices 2024 2023	2023	2024	Indices 2024 2023
Total	646	736	113,9	1 474	1 690	114,7	868 542	1 048 916	120,8
I	1	5	500,0	1	16	1) <sup>1)</sup>	944	3 550	376,1
II	2	6	300,0	21	40	190,5	94	1 152	1) <sup>1)</sup>
III	10	13	130,0	50	49	98,0	3 606	11 031	305,9
IV	42	42	100,0	85	78	91,8	54 909	67 419	122,8
V	71	78	109,9	142	148	104,2	103 002	124 759	121,1
VI	102	100	98,0	237	193	81,4	120 281	142 655	118,6
VII	86	113	131,4	197	277	140,6	128 563	164 455	127,9
VIII	107	106	99,1	237	249	105,1	151 975	157 365	103,5
IX	88	119	135,2	189	297	157,1	121 853	151 863	124,6
X	95	115	121,1	190	215	113,2	137 013	182 313	133,1
XI	31	30	96,8	85	80	94,1	37 941	36 169	95,3
XII	11	9	81,8	40	48	120,0	8 361	6 185	74,0

1) The index exceeds 999.

## G-2 THE MOST VISITED SEAPORTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA, JANUARY – DECEMBER 2024



## 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 and 155/23).

### 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**

NN Narodne novine, official gazette of the Republic of Croatia

#### **Symbols**

- no occurrence

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