



Croatia Trip FAQ

Salish Sea Studios Trip information

1. Will there be an itinerary for the trip?
 - a. The itinerary depends greatly on the number of people going. Once we have commitments from those going, an updated itinerary will be provided.
2. Will there be concerts every day?
 - a. There will be 4 or 5 formal concerts and several informal opportunities to sing. This will be included in the itinerary.
3. What will the concert attire be?
 - a. TBD, many of the concerts will be outdoors and Salish Sea Studios will be taking the weather into condition for planning the concert attire.
4. Will there be rehearsals while there?
 - a. This greatly depends on how prepared we are prior to departure. There will be plenty of time to rehearse before the tour. The ball is in your court
5. How much music will we be expected to memorize?
 - a. Very little. Again, this depends on those attending the tour.
6. Are the dates set for requesting time off?
 - a. The dates are subject to change by a couple days. If you need to request time off early tentatively the trip is June 24th through July 9th
7. What type of hotels will we stay?
 - a. Most hotels are 4 star and above hotels.
8. Will we all be in the same hotel?
 - a. Salish Sea Studios is working to ensure we are all in the same hotel. In Dubrovnik there are limited hotels and the group may need to be split.
9. Will we be assigned roommates?
 - a. A sign-up for roommates will be available at rehearsal to allow individuals to pick a roommate.
 - b. Anyone that doesn't have a roommate will be assigned one.
10. Do we end in Dubrovnik?
 - a. Trip starts in Zagreb and ends in Dubrovnik. From Dubrovnik you can fly out to most major airports.
11. What transportation is provided?

- a. You are responsible for getting to the first hotel from the airport. During the tour, all transportation is provided. After the tour, you are responsible for getting back to the airport.
12. What is the difference for non-choir members to pay for the trip?
- a. Non-Choir members pay the same amount for the trip.
 - b. Non-Choir members are free to do their own thing during choir times
13. Are the options for individuals with dietary restrictions?
- a. Let Salish Sea Studio's(SSS) know of your dietary restrictions and we will take care of you
14. What is the cost difference for having your own room?
- a. SSS will research this and provide an exact number towards the first of the year. Our best guess at this time is approximately an \$800 increase to have your own room. This could be grossly overestimated but is our best guess at this time.
15. Can spouse join the group for part of the time?
- a. This can be negotiated with Salish Sea Studios. See Dustin for more information.
16. Is there a central line where people can be reached while there?
- a. Dustin and Lauren will both have their cell phones.
 - b. 3 easy ways to use your cell phones abroad
 - i. Plan through major carrier for international phone plan
 - ii. Using wi-fi or international data to make calls. Below are some apps you can use to make calls internationally via wi-fi or data
 - 1. Facebook Messenger
 - 2. What's App
 - 3. Skype
 - iii. International Sim Card can be purchased
17. What will the terrain be like for walking?
- a. In general the walking options are for easy walking. In situations that the walking may be more difficult there are alternate transportation available
18. Will there be time to swim?
- a. Yes, many of the hotels will have swimming pools and along the coast there will be opportunities to swim in the Adriatic Sea.

Help with travel not included in trip

- 1. Kristi Adams is an independent travel agent with Travel Leaders and is currently holding seats for those wanting to travel as a group
 - a. For the group travel:
 - i. Can you use airline miles?
 - 1. Need to research further. Airline miles are generally restricted by dates
 - ii. Can premier seating be assigned with group tickets?
 - 1. Cannot do premier seating with group tickets
 - iii. Sign up or talk to Travel Committee member or Kristi Adams about group flight
- 2. What is the length of the flight?

- a. The average flight through Air Canada goes from Seattle to Toronto (4.5hours) and Toronto to Zagreb (8.5hrs) This flight is currently going for \$\$1,423 roundtrip (as of 11/3/19)
- 3. Is there assistance for individual travel?
 - a. Kristi can assist with individual travel as well. Her work information is below:
 - i. Phone: 206-696-2563
 - ii. E-mail: Kristia@travellleaders.com

Additional Information

- 1. What currency does Croatia use? Slovenia?
 - a. Croatia uses the Kuna
 - b. Slovenia uses the Euro
- 2. Do vendors prefer credit card or cash?
 - a. See travel tips on Croatia page for more information
- 3. Where is the best place to exchange money?
 - a. Check with your bank and exchange prior to going
 - i. Chase bank exchanges for no additional cost when you have an account
 - b. Use bank card/credit card with no international charges
 - i. BECU accounts have no additional fees for international travel
- 4. What is the weather like in Croatia during the trip dates?
 - a. See travel tips on Croatia page for more information
- 5. Watch for roommate and group travel sign-ups at rehearsal.
- 6. Can we create group contacts in app to communicate?
 - a. TBD

TRIP INSURANCE INFORMATION from Kristi Adams

For your convenience, I have provided a link to a company called **Squaremouth**. They have a website that shows the policies from most of the major travel insurance companies. You can go to their website, fill in the particulars of your trip, and they will display dozens of different options for you. With Squaremouth, you will be able to see all of the policies that are offered and choose the one that is best for you.

I like Squaremouth because in addition to their website, they maintain a toll-free number to provide personal booking assistance and guidance, if needed.

To view the policies that are available through Squaremouth, please click on this link:

<https://www.squaremouth.com/21843>. Then click on "Search Policies" and then click on single trip travel assistance. From there, just fill in the blanks and you'll be able to get a quote for the exact insurance protection you need. For assistance by phone, please call Squaremouth directly, as they are properly trained and licensed to assist you with your travel insurance. You can reach Squaremouth at 1-800-240-0369 and use reference code 21843. It is important to give this reference code or that you use the link provided as this will permit Squaremouth to let me know that you have purchased insurance. Remember to print out your policy and take it with you on the trip so you have all the emergency numbers in case you should need them. There are many travel insurance policies that are available from different companies. Each policy can offer protection for different types of occurrences. **Some** of the main types of coverage offered include:

- **Trip Cancellation** This protects you if you need to cancel your trip. Most policies cover for cancellations due to "unforeseen circumstances" such as injury, illness, severe illness or death of an immediate family member, another such instances. Each policy is different, so please see the exact specifications of each policy. As your tour is non-refundable and unforeseen circumstances do occur from time to time, this may be important to you. Generally, this protection will cover you for the full amount paid for your trip, as long as you showed this full amount when purchasing your insurance.
- **Trip Interruption** This protects you if one of the same type of "unforeseen circumstances" occurs **during** your trip. Many policies will protect you for a value that is higher than what you paid for the trip as, generally, this coverage will pay you for the required expenses to get you home in addition to paying you for the portion of the trip that you missed.
- **Emergency Medical** This coverage may cover you if you need to seek medical attention during your tour, due to illness or injury

- **Emergency Medical Evacuation** This will protect you if you need to be flown home or to a hospital during your tour. Dustin wants you to make sure that Repatriation is included in this insurance.
- **Travel Assistance** Many insurance companies will assist you if you experience one of these unforeseen circumstances during your tour. This assistance may include emergency flight arrangements, booking hotels and ground transportation, and finding medical facilities when needed.
 - **A WORD ABOUT “PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS”.** Over the years, I have found that many insurance claims involve a “pre-existing” condition. Sometimes, a pre-existing condition may include something you didn’t even consider. If this is important to you, you may want to select a policy that covers pre-existing conditions. To cover a pre-existing condition, most insurance companies require that you purchase your policy within a certain number of days after your date of booking. Also, most insurance companies require that you are medically able to travel on the date that you purchase your insurance. Should something occur after the date of booking that causes you to be unable to travel on the day that you purchase your travel insurance policy, a claim may be denied. Because of this, it is important, if you are going to purchase a travel insurance policy that you do so as soon as possible.
 - **THESE BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS** of these kinds of policies are just non-binding summaries, and there are exceptions and exclusions in each policy, so be sure to read your policy.