



Meet the Captain  
Roko Lelas  
Of Gulet Lotus





## How did you chose to work at sea?

I have been on boats since I was 12 years old. During my childhood, I spent time at sea with my dad and tourists from all over the world. I was proud to show these people the beauty of my country and teach them about Croatia. At the same time, I learned their stories and about their countries and cultures; this widened my horizons and gave me a love for the job and tourism. Working at sea and with people are two things that motivate and fulfil me, I guess it is in my blood, very much a part of me. I tried different things - music school and I studied Kinesiology, but I quickly realised that while these things are interesting, they are just hobbies, whereas working at sea is what I love and what I want to do for as long as I can.

## How did you come to be on LOTUS?

We decided to buy Lotus because, after years of owning and working on cruising-style ships (cabin charter), I wanted to take a step forward in my career and the experience I offer my guests. I could see myself in the yacht charter world, and I wanted to use my knowledge, passion, and abilities to their full potential. I looked for a yacht in which I could realize all of my ideas and wishes and found it with Lotus - which we bought in 2018.

## Have you sailed other seas or destinations?

Besides sailing all over the Adriatic Sea, I have also sailed the Aegean and Ionian seas while transporting Lotus from Turkey to Croatia.

## What keeps you passionate about sailing and tourism?

The feeling of gratitude, fulfillment, and the look of satisfaction on our guests' faces are the things that keep me motivated and passionate about this job.

## What is your favourite part about working as a captain on a charter yacht?

The best part of my role as a captain is that I suggest the itinerary and organise daily activities. This way, the guests can completely relax; they can soak in the beauty and spirit of Croatia, and leave Lotus enriched with amazing new experiences and memories.

## What differentiates LOTUS from other yachts?

Lotus is a yacht that catches the eye with her appearance, and she has excellent sailing performance. I believe that my crew and I can always go one step further to exceed our guests' expectations. We try our best to show them something new and exciting every day while letting them relax and feel right at home. Creating a comfortable, family-like atmosphere is important to us.

## What are some of your favourite memories aboard LOTUS?

All of my best memories are tied together in special moments spent with guests. There are far too many to recount but genuine joys and spontaneous moments like playing the guitar while guests sing and dance – this fills my heart, and I know spontaneous moments like these become treasured memories for our guests.

## Do you have return clients?

Between our two boats (Lotus and the first boat we worked privately for years), we have many guests returning year after year; 2020 was actually a 10-year jubilee for some of our guests. Lotus is still quite new to the market, as such, we are slowly building our name and clients. Compared to our first boat, Lotus is much larger, more luxurious, and has more to offer guests; in time, we hope that our passion and hard work will show similar results to our first boat.

## What is the one thing you think people don't know about Croatia?

I think most people have a similar image of Croatia. However, there is a difference between reading about Croatia and experiencing it in person. Croatia is a small country, but it is rich in culture and natural beauty. Each region, each island, and even each place on the Croatian coast has its own identity and something that differs it from others, whether it is food, tradition, dialect, etc. That is why I can't think of just one thing that people don't know about Croatia. I guess they will just have to book a charter on Lotus so we can show them all of the hidden beauties.





Captain Roko is looking forward to  
welcoming you on board Lotus!