

Dalmatian Coast & Montenegro 2017 EXCURSIONS

SPLIT - Croatia

Walking tour of Split - Duration approx. 2 hours



A major cultural center and the largest city in the region, Split is best known as the site of Diocletian's Palace, built by the Roman emperor Diocletian at the turn of the fourth century AD and today a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

As you begin your walking tour from the pier, your guide will share the history of Split—especially Diocletian's Palace, which has been continuously inhabited for more than 1,700 years, right up to the present day. You'll find it a remarkable piece of living history: the everyday home of more than 3,000 people who live here, shop at the local market, and watch their children play among ancient, marble-lined streets and alleyways. Your tour of this fine example of the architecture of the late Roman Empire begins in a basement substructure so remarkably preserved, it has helped archaeologists understand the construction and many uses of palatial buildings. The highlight of your tour is the heart of the palace, the Peristyle, featuring the Emperor's private quarters, the mausoleum, and several temples. Upon completion of your tour, you will enjoy in free time in Split.



SPLIT - CroatiaDuration approx.: 4 hours including Bus Tour to Trogir



The tour will start with a scenic drive along the Riviera of Seven Castles (locally known as Kastela). Now days these are small, typical Mediterranean towns, but their names all bear the title Kastela, meaning it developed from fortresses built along the seaside in 15th century as fortification system.

Afterwards proceed driving towards a small island squeezed in between the mainland and the larger island of Ciovo. The tiny island is connected to the mainland with a bridge. Except for the green parks the entire island is occupied by spectacular constructions in stone-houses, palaces, churches, monasteries, towers, walls etc. The streets are narrow and they truly give a feel of how life might have been in the old days. We will visit the main attraction in Trogir - the Cathedral of St. Lawrence. This 13th century building is probably the finest example of sacral architecture in Croatia. The unusual construction with three naves and three semicircular apses dominates the whole town. The main portal carved by the local artist "Radovan" in the 13th century is world famous. Other fine buildings that will be viewed are the Town Loggia, the Town Hall, and the Cipiko Palace.

Free time at leisure for exploring the old town of Trogir, and return drive to Split



RAB - CroatiaDuration approx.: 2 hours including walking tour of Rab



Rab is truly a town of rare charm packed with fine old houses and other interesting buildings. Your guided walking tour will show you some of the finest features of this lovely town, including a view of the Cathedral, a three nave basilica dedicated to the 12th century St. Mary. Further in town, you will see the church of Justina. Along the walk you will also have the opportunity to see the finest buildings in town, including the Church of St. John the Baptist and ruins of the ancient basilica, the Princes Palace, and the sculptures of Draga and Kaliforni in the town's main square, just to mention a few.



SIBENIK - Croatia

Duration approx.: 5.5 hours including bus tour to Krka National Park, Primosten & Sibenik Town





Leaving the town of Sibenik ride by coach through the karst hinterland towards the famous "Krka" river waterfalls. Located in the lovely Krka National Park, the falls cascade over 17 natural barriers. Krka is one of the 7 National Parks in Croatia and it covers an area of 14222 Ha with its specific characteristics of natural, human and cultural values, particularly geological, geomorphologic, hydrological, biological and landscape elements. The Krka River is a distinctive phenomenon also due its specific biogenesis and formation of gypsum barriers. The whole area is rich with endemic species-vegetation as well as birds and fish. Due to very strong laws on natural preservation, this extraordinary area has been preserved in its original form.

After some free time in the National Park, board the coach and continue towards Primosten. This small town is situated on the islet close to the mainland. During the Turkish invasions in 1542 the islet was protected by walls, towers and a draw bridge connected it to the mainland. When the Turks retreated, the draw bridge was replaced by the causeway which actually gave the name to the town. Primosten is also famous for its huge and beautiful vineyards. A photo of the vineyards is even located in the UN center in New York. And lastly, upon return to Sibenik, enjoy a guided walking tour of the town founded by Croats more than a thousand years ago. Sibenik is famous for the ancient fortresses surrounding it and for its monumental gothic–renaissance Cathedral of St. Jacob, as well as the narrow streets and numerous churches scattered around the town and its surroundings. This guided walking tour takes you through the old part of the town where you will see the Cathedral of St. Jacob, the City Hall, the Baroque Orthodox Church, as well as the commercial and crafts centre.



HVAR - CroatiaDuration approx.: 1.5 hours including walking tour of Hvar



Hvar is the longest of all the Croatian islands and is home to three towns. The largest of these, also named Hvar, served as an important harbor for Venice`s Adriatic fleet from the late 12th century through most of the 18th century. As though to remained us of its former importance, Hvar sports a thick - walled fortress overlooking the harbor and, in the very heart of the port, a large Arsenal, whose arched portal recalls nothing more threatening that the mouth of a bass, houses Europe`s first community theatre (built in 1612).

The once democratic spirit pervades the town, whose streets and people converge onto an expansive Piazza, the largest in all of Dalmatia, which connects the older part of town to the more recent southern side - which is to say, the part of town that developed from the 15th century onwards. It is easy to take part in the relaxed rhythms of island life, and one of the best ways is by joining in the evening promenade: up to the Renaissance Cathedral, round the sixteenth - century town well, down to the Arsenal with its striking portal, and over to the dock, where sailboats and fishing boats bob and sway in the evening breeze. Returning to the square visit Cathedral and its graceful 17th century bell – tower.

Through narrow streets visitors walk to the 15th century Franciscan monastery, where they will visit the impressive Renaissance cloister, the old refectory that today houses a collection of lace, manuscripts and books and the church with its remarkable collection of paintings.



KORCULA Legends & Stories – Croatia

Duration approx.: 3 hrs including Walking tour of Korcula Old Town & Lumbarda Village



Your guide will explain why the Old Town of Korčula is a masterwork of architecture and urban planning where everything is built according to a plan. The layout of the town streets reminds of a fishbone in order to take advantage of the different winds to clear the air, something like a natural air conditioning system. Korcula is also known as the birthplace of the famous world traveler Marco Polo whose alleged birth house is right in the heart of the Old Town.

Enjoy this pleasant walk and afterwards board a couch and continue to the village of Lumbarda.

In the rural village of Lumbarda, the family Milina - Bire exists for centuries. While in past they produced wine for their house needs, half a century ago they decided to use the knowledge they gathered throughout the years of grape and vine production and they started their own small winery. Now they have completely automatized systems for wine production, while they still try to keep part of the old fashioned way of wine production.

Upon arrival guests will go to the wine production venue to see how the wine is produced nowadays, before coming to the intriguing wine cellar nicely decorated with the wine production tools used in past. Here your host, the owner of the vinery will tell you a story about wine production and history of the family Bire producing wines in village of Lumbarda. You will be offered with two sorts of wine (white and red one), snack and local liqueurs.



Kotor - Montenegrin Hidden Gem - MontenegroGuided walking tour through the UNESCO protected Old Town of Kotor



This walking tour is perfect to get to know Kotor's medieval quarter, its bustling market and beautiful Renaissance buildings. The well preserved fortified walls of Kotor were built by a Venetian in 1420 and continued being strengthened until the 18th ct. Enclosing the whole Old town, the 5 km long walls formed an unique fortification project which could resist attacks from the sea for months and survive long sieges.

Our tour includes a visit to Cathedral of St. Tryphon which was constructed in 1166 and built on the remains of a former temple from the 9th ct. We will see the remains from 14th ct frescos and the valuable treasury with both local and Venetian golden works (14th- 20th ct). After the sightseeing tour you can walk back to the pier or enjoy free time on your own.



Views over DUBROVNIK now and then - Croatia

Duration approx.: 4 hours including Cable Car to the Dubrovnik View point & Guided city walk.



Departing the ship by bus toward the newly open Cable Car Station situated in vicinity of the Old Town of Dubrovnik. Upon arrival to the Cable Car Station you will proceed with a cable car to a panoramic view of Dubrovnik from the surrounding hill. From here you will be offered a bird's – eye view of the greatness of the entire city and surroundings of the centuries – old Dubrovnik rooftops which you will never forget.

Upon return to the main Station the tour guide will lead you by foot to the Old Town of Dubrovnik for the walking tour of the old town of Dubrovnik, encircled by its monumental stone ramparts, which have preserved and enhanced Dubrovnik's spirit of Renaissance. You will be awed by the labyrinth of short, narrow stone streets, the market place, palaces, towers, monasteries and houses, each of which is over 300 years old! The old masters understood how to construct a miraculously harmonious stone city. Dubrovnik was the bridge and diplomatic liaison between the east and west. It has been subject to fires and catastrophic earthquakes, but has always risen again like the "Phoenix" to retain its renown as world – famous treasury of cultural monuments!



PRICES

All tours include private a/c bus, professional English speaking guide/escort all entrances to the sites as well as city taxes.

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DAY	COU NTRY	PORT	TOUR NAME	PRICES (€)		
				7-12 participant s	13 – 19 participant s	20+ participant s
Monday	CRO	SPLIT	Walking Tour of Split	40	28	22
	CRO	SPLIT	Exploring gorgeous Trogir	98	55	37
Tuesday	CRO	RAB	Streets of Rab	33	22	16
Wednesda y	CRO	SIBENIK	Krka National Park & Primosten	130	90	74
Thursday	CRO	HVAR	Walking tour of Hvar	35	23	17
Friday	CRO	KORCULA	City walk and Lumbarda village with wine tasting	96	55	37
Saturday	MNG	KOTOR	Kotor - Montenegrin Hidden Gem	30	20	15
Sunday	CRO	DUBROVNIK	Views over DUBROVNIK now and then	85	62	56

REMARKS:

In case of low number of participants (less than 7), the prices are adjusted in order for tours to take place.

Comfortable shoes, light clothing, water and a sun hat are recommended.

Dress code for any church or monastery visits. Tips for the local guides and drivers are not included.

Last minute cancellations (less than a day ahead of tour) will be fully charged.