

Via Dinarica Croatia & Montenegro

Hiking the coastal traverse South Dalmatia,
Dubrovnik and Montenegro's Bay of Kotor



Itinerary - 8 Days

Trip Details

Day 1 – Arrival to Dubrovnik; transfer to Montenegro

Arrival to Dubrovnik and meeting with our tour leader. Transfer to Montenegro and the lovely town of Kotor. Enjoy a welcome dinner in one of the Old Town's restaurants and a briefing from your tour guide for the trip ahead. Overnight in a comfortable family run apartment hotel.

-Welcome dinner / Family hotel in Kotor

Day 2 – Kotor, Perast and the Vrmac Ridge

The first hike takes place on the beautiful Vrmac Ridge which separates the inner Bay of Kotor from the outer bay and Adriatic coastline. Views from the ridge are beautiful. Departing on foot from Kotor the route ascends on an old Austro-Hungarian switchback footpath to the former Austrian stronghold at Trojica, atop the ridge. Once on the ridge the wide path ascends gently for 4kms until reaching the crossroads. Take the ancient connecting track down to the village of Gornja (upper) Stoliv and then descend to sea level. A waiting boat will bring you the short distance to the island of our Lady of the Rocks outside Perast for a short visit and then onwards to Perast town. Here you will have free time to explore or enjoy a late lunch at one of the local waterfront restaurants. A transfer will be provided for the 20 mins drive back to Kotor afterwards and the late afternoon and evening can be spent exploring Kotor's beautiful Old Town (UNESCO). Overnight Kotor.

-Moderate / 5 hrs walk / + 765 m / 11km

-Breakfast / Family hotel in Kotor

Day 3 – Lovcen National Park

Lovcen National Park is located less than 1 hour's drive from Kotor and offers spectacular hiking, Ascend with a road transfer on the famed switchbacks above Kotor before entering the National Park. The hike today takes place on the Adriatic seaboard side of the mountain with far reaching views to Budva and Sveti Stefan. After the hike there will be a chance to visit the summit of one of Lovcen's two peaks, Jezerski vrh – 1657m, home to the mausoleum of the poet ruler of Montenegro- Petar Njegos II. The views from the summit are spectacular, reaching up to Croatia and down to Albania across Skadar Lake on a clear day. Before heading back to Kotor visit the small village of Njegos's birth just outside the park, and try the local cheeses and cured hams which are popular in this region. Overnight Kotor.

-Moderate / 5-6 hrs walk / + 201 m / 14km

-Breakfast / Family hotel in Kotor

Coastal Traverse of South Croatia and Montenegro offers some of the most stunning hikes along the Dinaric range. It is a place where the mountains meet the sea and where the west meets the east. Throughout our 8-day adventure, we will explore the mountains that surmount the beautiful Kotor Bay of Montenegro, hike on Snjeznica, the highest mountain of southern Croatia, walk and enjoy the stunning views from Orjen massif and St. Elias peak on Peljesac peninsula, ranging from the Bosnian innerlands to the islands of the Adriatic.

We will also taste the local products of mountainous Montenegro and enjoy the exquisite wines of the sun bathed Peljesac peninsula. Those ones interested in cultural heritage of the region will have a thrill visiting the Old Towns of Kotor and Dubrovnik, enlisted in the UNESCO world heritage list.

Day 4 – Orjen mountain (Grab viewpoint 1.383m) & transfer to Dubrovnik

Depart from Kotor after breakfast with luggage for the one hour drive to Herceg Novi and the trail start for Mount Orjen. Hiking on Orjen starts at Borici, 700m above sea level and ascends via the Vratlo pass. After a break at the Za Vratlom mountain house, set off for the climb through forests and woodland to the Grab viewpoint, one hour away. Orjen mountain is noted for its karst limestone formations and huge variety of flora which grows here. In summer pick wild strawberries and learn about the different herbs and their medicinal purposes. Transfer to Dubrovnik. Welcome dinner in a restaurant next to Old Town, accommodation and overnight in a family pension.

-Moderate / 5-6 hrs walk / + 683 m / 13km

-Breakfast and welcome dinner / Family pension in Dubrovnik

Day 5 – Dubrovnik Old Town (UNESCO)

Rest day, dedicated to exploring Dubrovnik, the "Adriatic Gem". Enjoy the stunning palaces, monasteries & churches, famous Dubrovnik City Walls and the narrow stone cobbled streets of Dubrovnik Old Town.

For the more active ones, we suggest the following activities:

-walk to Srdj hill (45 min-1h) above Dubrovnik, for views on the Old Town red tiled roofs and bell towers and the sea in front

-visit and leisurely hike to the Elaphiti island of Lopud (2h hike)

-half-day sea kayak trip, around Lokrum island and below the Dubrovnik ramparts

-a short walk, swimming and relaxing on the green island of Lokrum, just 10 min by tourist boat from the Old Town



Overnight in our family pansion.

-Cultural visit of Dubrovnik

-Breakfast / Family pansion in Dubrovnik

Day 6 – Snjeznica (1.234m) – the highest mountain of Konavle and Dubrovnik region

Morning transfer to the area of Konavle, an agricultural area in the back of Dubrovnik and the coastal line. Start of the walk from the village Kuna Konavoska, to the peak of St. Elias (1234m). We will walk by an old Austro-Hungarian path made to control the highest peak of Konavle, as an important strategic point. Back to the village and transfer to Cavtat town, a nice coastal town with a rich history dating from the times of Greeks to today. Picnic lunch during the day. In the evening, transfer back to Dubrovnik. Overnight.

-Moderate / 4-5 hrs walk / + 550 m / 10km

-Breakfast / Family pansion in Dubrovnik

Day 7 – Peljesac peninsula and St. Elias peak (980m)

After breakfast, transfer to Orebic town, on Peljesac peninsula. Orebic is a town of sailors and was the most important harbour of medieval Dubrovnik Republic. We start our hike to the St. Elias peak from Orebić. Ascent (+960m) takes about 3h. At the top, we are rewarded by a stunning view:

-Dalmatian islands of Korcula, Mljet, Lastovo

-Ston bay, dividing Peljesac peninsula from the coast

-Biokovo mountain (Nature Park), to the north-west

After a break and some photos on the peak, we descent by another way, to Orebić. Some free time to explore this cosy little coastal town, have a swim in the Adriatic or enjoy a drink next to the sea.

In the afternoon, transfer back to Dubrovnik. On the way, we stop to taste some of the exquisite wines of the sun bathed Peljesac peninsula and to have a short walk under the ramparts of Ston town, one of the best preserved European medieval walls. Overnight in hotel.

-Moderate / 6 hrs walk / + 960 m / 12km

-Breakfast / Family pansion in Dubrovnik

8. Day – Departure from Dubrovnik

After breakfast, transfer to Dubrovnik airport. Flight home.

-Breakfast

Trip Highlights

- Hiking the coastal traverse of Montenegro
- Discovering the mountains of South Dalmatia
- Old Town of Dubrovnik (UNESCO)
- Boka Kotorska Bay & Old Town of Kotor (UNESCO)



Quick Facts

Dates | Jul 06 - 13, 2015
Sep 05 - 12, 2015

Trip Cost | 4 - 7 members 790 EUR
2015 | 8 - 16 members 620 EUR

- Price is per person, double occupancy

- Single rooms supplement 130 EUR

- All travelers will be paired with a same gender roommate when a roommate is available

Group Sizes | 4 - 16

See special terms and conditions for this adventure.

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About

Via Dinarica Adventures

Via Dinarica Adventures are unique, active itineraries for intrepid travelers that combine spectacular places, cultural interaction, and physical challenges. These expeditions are organized by some of the best Outdoor Adventure Companies in the Western Balkans.

You'll explore fascinating, off - the - beaten - path places with top guides.

Feel free to call us on Skype, or email if you still have any questions or concerns. We're here to help you.

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