

BACKROADS
THE WORLD'S #1 ACTIVE TRAVEL COMPANY

INSIDER

SARAJEVO & DALMATIAN COAST

Sarajevo and the Croatian Riviera

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6 DAYS, 5 NIGHTS

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Backroads invites you to discover architectural treasures, distinctive cultural history and gorgeous coastline on this memorable Insider journey from Sarajevo to Croatia's Dalmatian Coast, a region that's reemerging to rival established European destinations. In Sarajevo, site of the 1984 Winter Olympics, stroll the bustling Turkish Quarter to discover the secrets of its Ottoman past. Visit Mostar's famous bridge Stari Most, now a World Heritage site, where you'll watch divers carry on a longstanding tradition. Board a private boat (where we sleep three nights!) to explore the turquoise waters, sunny beaches and picturesque villages of the Dalmatian Coast, renowned for some of the planet's most beautiful islands. And along the way, spend time with locals, who'll draw you deeper into their fascinating world.

Day 1

Meet your Backroads Trip Leaders (the folks wearing Backroads shirts) at **8:30 a.m.** at the **Hotel Astra Garni in Sarajevo**, located in the city center at Kundurdziluk 2. (Don't confuse Hotel Astra Garni with its sister hotel, Hotel Astra, located three blocks away.) **Please arrive wearing comfortable walking shoes.** See "Arriving & Departing" for additional logistics information.

Walking Tour of Turkish Quarter 1 Hour

Shuttle to Lukomir 1½ Hours

Visit with the Comors Family

Shuttle to Sarajevo 1½ Hours

Free Time in Sarajevo

Welcome to your Sarajevo and Dalmatian Coast Insider Trip! We meet in Sarajevo, a historically rich city where Eastern and Western cultures have both commingled and collided for centuries. It has been said, "If you want to visit Vienna and Istanbul at the same time, go to Sarajevo." It is this cultural and religious diversity that makes Sarajevo one of the most fascinating cities in Europe today.

We start with a brief introduction to the city's religious, architectural and cultural history during a short walk through the Turkish Quarter, mingling with hospitable locals along the way. We stop at Morica Han, a former traveler's inn, for a brief trip orientation over Turkish tea and coffee. Built in 1557, the restaurant is one of oldest examples of Islamic architectural style in Sarajevo. The original buildings of the inn surround the courtyard, which once stabled travelers' horses and pack animals. After tea, we leave the Turkish quarter behind and shuttle to the highland village of Lukomir. Have your camera handy—the mountain views are outstanding!

At almost 5,000 feet, Lukomir, is the highest and most isolated village in the country. And from the first snowfall in December until late April, Lukomir is virtually inaccessible—unless you're on skis or on foot. The town's charm lies in its unique stone homes with cherry-wood roof tiles and its residents, who still dress in traditional attire. You'll likely see women wearing the hand-knitted costumes that have been worn here for centuries. Our friends, the Comors, invite us into their home and offer us a snapshot of life in this traditional highland Muslim

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BACKROADS IS
RECOGNIZED YEAR IN
AND YEAR OUT AS
ONE OF THE WORLD'S
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Our Accommodations: CASUAL INNS

HOTEL ASTRA GARNI

(1 night) This modern hotel, set in the heart of Sarajevo, offers individually styled rooms designed with dark wood and cappuccino hues, and a restaurant serving international and local cuisine.

Sarajevo

phone: 387-(0)33-475-100
www.astra-garni.com.ba

HOTEL MOGORJELO

(1 night) Located near the entrance to the town of Capljina, Hotel Mogorjelo features comfortable guest rooms and a restaurant overlooking the Neretva River.

Capljina

phone: 387-(0)36-810-815
www.hotelmogorjelo.ba

SECRET OF THE SEA

(3 nights) The *trabakul* that serves as our floating hotel is a traditional sailing vessel equipped with everything we need for a comfortable voyage, including an indoor dining area, bar and spacious deck for sunbathing and relaxing.

Dalmatian Coast

phone: 385-(0)21-862-455

**EACH YEAR,
3 OUT OF 4 OF OUR
GUESTS HAVE
PREVIOUSLY
TRAVELED WITH US OR
BEEN REFERRED BY
SOMEONE WHO HAS**

village. We get a real taste of mountain living as we tend to the cows (if you've never milked a cow, here's your chance!), and learn to make homemade polenta and cheese.

After lunch, we return to Sarajevo via a route that tracks high into the mountains. We pass through a few small villages, stopping at a lookout that provides magnificent views of Sarajevo. Back in the city, you're free to spend the rest of the afternoon exploring. There are several small museums such as the Old Serbian Orthodox Museum, the Jewish Museum and the National Gallery, which houses works by Bosnian and Yugoslavian artists. Or if you prefer, you can take a 20-minute shuttle to the Tunnel Museum, near what had been the front lines of the Serbian conflict. The only way out of Sarajevo during the war, the tunnel burrows from a small home near the museum to safety on the other side of Sarajevo's airport. This evening we dine on typical Bosnian cuisine at Kod Kibe Restaurant, one of the finest restaurants in the city. Musicians often frequent the restaurant and if we're lucky, they'll play traditional Bosnian folk music in regional garb. *Lodging: Hotel Astra Garni*

Day 2

Train to Mostar (Breakfast Included) 3 Hours

Börek Cooking Demonstration & Bridge Diving Show 45 Minutes

Shuttle to Hotel Mogorjelo 30 Minutes

Shuttle to/from Jurkovic Family Home 1 Hour Round-trip

How about a little adventure and romance with your breakfast this morning? We rise early to catch our train to Mostar, an embattled riverside town that has been restored to its former beauty. Our journey aboard an old-fashion Yugoslav train presents the ideal opportunity to mix with locals and enjoy unsurpassed views of the mountains, rivers and towns of the countryside. Once in Mostar, we visit the town's famous centerpiece, the beautiful 16th-century Stari Most Bridge, which spans the rushing turquoise waters of Neretva River. A centuries-old emblem of connectedness between the Bosnian cultures, it was destroyed in 1994 by Croat gunmen. Rebuilt in 2004, it is now a World Heritage site. We climb up one of the bridge towers for views overlooking the bridge and river. Here we meet our friend Kimenta, who teaches us how to make börek, savory pastries popular throughout the former Ottoman Empire. The pastries are traditionally filled with feta cheese, minced meat, potatoes, or other vegetables. And here's an interesting twist: while Kimenta rolls out the phyllo (or dough), we have front row seats to a bridge diving show. It is a longstanding (and risky!) tradition for the young men of Mostar to dive from the bridge into the frigid waters of the Neretva River. We meet Guma, one of these intrepid divers, who's been jumping from the bridge since he was 15 years old.

In the afternoon, you have time to investigate the artistic endeavors of the village's copper workers. The craftsmanship is impressive, with many beautiful pieces to choose from, including embellished artillery shells from the war. Lunch on your own before meeting back up with the group and shuttling to tonight's hotel in Capljina, located just over 5 miles from the famous Catholic pilgrimage site of Medugorje. According to believers, the Mother Mary appeared in 1981 on a hillside between the villages Medugorje and Bijakovic, and spoke to three children. Since that time, over 15 million people have visited the tiny village. After settling in at Hotel Mogorjelo, there's time to relax—the terrace of hotel's restaurant, which overlooks the river, is a nice place to unwind and enjoy the view.

This evening we leave minarets and mosques behind to experience another of Bosnia's distinct cultures. After shuttling into the foot lands bordering the national forest, we arrive at the home of the Jurkovics, a Catholic Croatian family. Here you'll see glimpses of the Austro-Hungarian Empire: a train ticket stamp, farm tools and past Yugoslav currency. The Jurkovics have been here for generations—since 1651, in fact—and the stone hut where we cook our meal over an



Traveling with Backroads is about getting inside and making connections: with places and people, history and culture, fellow travelers—perhaps you'll even discover something new about yourself.

You don't have to sweat the details! Backroads takes care of everything—from making sure your luggage is waiting for you in your room to appearing with a cool drink when you need it most—allowing you to enjoy a carefree vacation full of discovery, fun and relaxation.

Our Trip Leaders have undergone hundreds of hours of training and are the best in the industry.

WHEN YOU SIGN UP FOR A TRIP, YOU'LL RECEIVE A COMPREHENSIVE TRAVEL PLANNER WITH ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO PLAN AND PREPARE

open fire was their grandparents' home. It's now a hall used for cookouts, barbecues and the drying of prosciutto. The family is completely self-sufficient, growing their own fruits and vegetables, raising livestock, and making their own cheese. They also use medicinal teas to cure most ailments, from nausea to lethargy. You'll have a chance to try Travarica, the local grappa, which can be made of sea grass, nuts and various herbs (also happens to be good for stomach disorders).

Dinner is a unique hands-on experience and depending on the season, you may find yourself picking fresh herbs for our stew or helping out with the grape harvest. We have a wonderful meal of delicious organic (or "eco," as they say in Bosnia) food, and homemade wine and of course, the Jurkovic's hospitality. They may even share the secrets of performing a *becaric* (humorous folk song). *Lodging: Hotel Mogorjelo*

Day 3

Mosque Visit & Q&A with Imam 1½ Hours

Or Optional Exploration of Pocitelj & Art Center

Shuttle to Gradac 1 Hour

Cruise to Hvar Island 4 Hours

Free Time in Jelsa

WineTasting at Tomic Winery 45 Minutes

Before entering Croatia, we pay a morning visit to the World Heritage site of Pocitelj. The hillside town, perched above the Neretva River, has been restored to its original Ottoman splendor. The Hadzi-Alija Mosque has been rebuilt, as well as the Sisman-Ibrahimpasina medresa and the Gavran Kapetanovic house. Pocitelj is also home to the longest operating art colony in Southeast Europe, drawing artists from around the world. But the highlight of our visit is our private session with the local Imam (Muslim religious leader). For those interested in expanding their cultural understanding of the region, you're invited inside the mosque, where we sit on rugs with the Imam and learn about the foundations of Islam in the region. You'll gain insight into the prayer and cleansing ritual, and afterward the Imam invites your questions—having an audience with this religious leader is a rare and special opportunity. If this isn't of interest, you can spend the morning browsing galleries and shops and visiting the art center.

Now prepare to cross into yet another world, where you'll stay for the remainder of the trip. The first part of our journey took you to the crossroads of East and West. We showed you the face of a beautiful country, whose resilient people now live in hope for a peaceful future. So switching to a life of sailing the seas off the Dalmatian Coast is a dramatic transition. For the next three days, we tour Croatia's Riviera, docking at an island paradise or two, with plenty of time to swim in clear turquoise waters, soak up the sun and enjoy the balmy Mediterranean breezes.

After shuttling to Gradac, we board a *trabakul* and sail to the island of Hvar, the chicest and most popular destination of the southern Dalmatian archipelago. (The fact that Hvar receives an average of 2,718 hours of sunshine per year might have something to do with its popularity.) A long thin piece of land, Hvar is filled with fragrant lavender, heather and pines, while ragged inlets and a steep central limestone ridge add to the landscape's beauty. We disembark on the northern side of the island at Jelsa, whose origins date to the 13th century. There's time to stretch your legs and enjoy some free time exploring town.

This evening we head to Tomic Winery for a tasting. You might be surprised to learn that wine has been produced on the island since the 4th century B.C.—Croatia has the Greeks to thank for that. Andro Tomic is a true oenophile, having dedicated 20 years of his life to professional training. He was pulled back to Hvar by his firm belief that the island—with its authentic



Note

While the information presented here details this trip's planned routes, activities, accommodations, meeting and departing times, we are constantly seeking new opportunities to enhance this itinerary and your experience. Naturally, we will keep you up to date on any changes that may affect your arrival, departure or lodging.

varieties, exceptionally favorable climate and superb location of vineyards—can reclaim its long-lost reputation in winemaking. Andro now produces his own wines, following in the proud tradition of his forebears. After the tasting, we return to the boat for a festive dinner at sea, featuring fresh seafood prepared by our crew. *Lodging: Secret of the Sea*

Day 4

Morning Swim in Bay 1½ Hours

Sail to Stari Grad 30 Minutes

Shuttle to Brusje 30 Minutes

Lavender Field Visit 30 Minutes

Shuttle to Hvar Town 30 Minutes

Free Time in Hvar Town

We drop anchor in the middle of the bay so you can indulge in a morning swim before sailing to Stari Grad, the collective name for several small towns on the northern side of the island that thrived at one time but were then abandoned. It is an important archaeological site, with traces of ancient Illyrian, Greek and Roman settlements, as well as early Christian, early Croatian and Romanesque artifacts. After lunch in Stari Grad, we shuttle to the fragrant town of Brusje, where the island's lavender is grown. Perched high above Hvar Town, Brusje's miles of terraced rock walls protect the lavender fields from the high winds. We meet a local grower (affectionately known as the Lavender Lady) who regales us with island lavender tales as we're enveloped by its delightful calming scent.

We're surrounded by views of the ocean and islands during a scenic shuttle to Hvar Town, always a flurry of well-heeled activity. Then, you have the rest of the afternoon to yourself: Find a spot on the town's beautiful marble central square (the largest in Dalmatia) and settle in for some people-watching. Or take a leisurely stroll about town to admire Croatia's most impressive collection of Venetian Renaissance architecture. Don't miss two notable gems: the 17th-century Venetian arsenal, housing a beautiful theater (the first in Europe to be accessible to ordinary folks), and the stunning 15th-century Franciscan monastery with gardens overlooking the sea. This evening you're on your own to dine in Hvar Town. Wondering where to find the best *strukl*? Just ask your leaders, who are always happy to recommend the best local restaurants. *Lodging: Secret of the Sea*

Day 5

Cruise to Korcula 4½ Hours

Free Time in Korcula

Korcula Town Walking Tour 1½ Hours

This morning we set sail for the isle of Korcula (pronounced KOHR-choo-lah), stopping en route to swim and have lunch. The island is lush with vineyards, olive groves and forests of pine, oak and cypress. After docking, explore Korcula's walled medieval town, one of several reputed birthplaces of Marco Polo. Huddled around St. Mark's Cathedral, the atmospheric old quarter is known for its succession of skinny rib-like lanes that branch off the "spine" of the main street—a clever layout designed to protect the townsfolk from the sun and wind. The Venetians came here in the 10th century and ruled on and off for more than 800 years, leaving a distinct mark on the town's culture and architecture. Today, Korcula Town is a trove of rough-hewn stone Gothic and Renaissance palaces, courtyards, churches and graceful arched bridges. The thick walls and imposing towers—once a defense against passing pirates and other enemies—date back to the 14th century. Later our local guide takes us on a walking tour through Korcula Town's crooked and cobbled streets, providing an informative cultural and historical overview of Croatia and leaving ample time to field your questions. *Lodging: Secret of the Sea*

**ASK FOR REFERENCES
FROM PAST GUESTS
WHO HAVE TAKEN
THE TRIP THAT
INTERESTS YOU**

Day 6

Cruise to Prapatno 3 Hours

Mali Ston Mussel & Oyster Excursion & Tasting 1 Hour

Bus Shuttle to Dubrovnik 1¼ Hours

On our final day in Croatia, we sail to the idyllic little fishing village of Mali Ston on the Peljesac Peninsula, famous for its oysters. Originally part of the Dubrovnik city-state you can still see the ancient defensive wall arching high over the town. From here we take a private boat shuttle to the mussel fields, where our host pulls in the main course for our lunch, fresh from the sea—a fitting celebration to close a wonderful week. Afterward we shuttle to Dubrovnik where our trip ends. Please see “Arriving & Departing” for end-of-trip logistics.

Arriving & Departing

Please note that meeting and departing times provided here were current at the time of printing, but are subject to change. PLEASE DO NOT BOOK YOUR FLIGHTS UNTIL YOU ARE CONFIRMED ON YOUR VACATION AND HAVE VERIFIED THE DETAILS OF ARRIVING & DEPARTING WITH YOUR TRIP CONSULTANT.

MEETING TIME AND LOCATION

On the first day of the trip, we meet at **8:30 a.m.** in **Sarajevo** at **Hotel Astra Garni**, located at Kundurdziluk 2. (Don’t confuse Hotel Astra Garni with its sister hotel, Hotel Astra, located three blocks away.) Please arrive wearing comfortable walking shoes.

CONCLUSION OF THE TRIP

The trip ends at the Hilton Imperial in Dubrovnik around 2:30 p.m. We suggest taking a taxi from the hotel to the airport; the fare for the 30–45 minute ride is approximately \$40. Transfers can be easily arranged through the hotel. If you plan to fly out today, book your flight for after 6 p.m.

FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS

This trip meets in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina and ends in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

We suggest flying into Sarajevo’s International (Cilipi) Airport (airport code: SJJ/LQSA; www.sarajevo-airport.ba) and flying out of Dubrovnik’s International Airport (airport code: DBV; www.airport-dubrovnik.hr). Because of our early meeting time, you’ll need to arrive in Sarajevo the day before the trip starts.

For help arranging air transport to and from your Backroads trip, please work with your own travel agent, the airline directly or an online travel site. For assistance locating a travel agent, please visit www.backroads.com/gettingthere. (Note that most travel agents and online travel sites charge a fee for their consulting services.)

TRANSPORT FROM THE SARAJEVO AIRPORT TO HOTEL ASTRA GARNI

The airport is located 7.5 miles outside of the city; there are no shuttles or bus routes to the city center. Taxi service from the airport to the Hotel Astra Garni costs approximately \$15.

ORGANIZE A
BACKROADS PRIVATE
TRIP FOR YOUR
FAMILY, FRIENDS OR
COLLEAGUES FOR THE
TRIP OF A LIFETIME

Hotel Room Rate Guide (U.S. dollars per night)	
Up to \$100	◆
\$101–200	◆◆
\$201–300	◆◆◆
\$301–500	◆◆◆◆
\$501 and up	◆◆◆◆◆

Where to Stay Before & After Your Trip

For help arranging pre- or post-trip hotels in conjunction with your Backroads trip, please work with your travel agent or the hotels directly. For assistance locating a travel agent please visit www.backroads.com/gettingthere. (Note that most travel agents charge a fee for their consulting services.)

Of course, we also recommend extending your stay at any of the hotels that we visit on this trip; see the sidebar above for details. Because of the high demand for accommodations, we suggest you book your hotels as early as possible.

Please refer to the Hotel Room Rate Guide in the sidebar for starting double-occupancy rates. Note that the chart reflects the Internet and/or Best Available rates, which were accurate at the time of printing, but hotel rates are always subject to change.

SARAJEVO

Hotel Astra Garni (Day 1 meeting location & first night's hotel)

Our first night's hotel is conveniently set in the heart of Sarajevo near the cathedral, just a 5-minute walk from the Turkish quarter. The modern Hotel Astra Garni offers pleasant updated rooms designed with dark wood and cappuccino hues. Kunderdziluk 2; Phone: 387 (0)33 475-100; www.astra-garni.com.ba; 49 rooms. Rates: ◆◆

Hotel Astra

Located just three blocks from its sister hotel Hotel Astra Garni, the Hotel Astra has clean modern rooms with luxury bathrooms, onsite restaurant serving traditional Bosnian specialties and friendly staff make this a great base for our exploration of the city. Discounted rate is offered if you pay in cash. Zelenih beretki 9; Phone: 387-(0)33-252 100/200; 30 rooms. Rates: ◆◆

Holiday Inn Sarajevo

This hotel offers the conveniences and comforts expected from the Holiday Inn chain, plus some extra style for good measure, which lures visiting journalists, diplomats and stars. The hotel also has a small health and fitness center, sauna, three restaurants and proximity to the city's attractions. Zmaja od bosne; Phone: 387-(0)33-288-000; www.ichotelsgroup.com; 206 rooms. Rates: ◆◆

DUBROVNIK

We suggest extending your stay in the charming medieval town of Dubrovnik, with its hodgepodge of Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque architecture and vibrant street life. Pass through Pile Gate into the Old City and you're transported back to the 13th century by numerous medieval landmarks, palaces, churches that have remained seemingly untouched by the tolls of time. Take a stroll along the Placa, the city's most popular pedestrian thoroughfare, and perhaps duck into one of the many boutiques, cafés, wine bars, galleries and museums that line the street.

You can find accommodations in Pile, Lapad, the Old Town and Ploce. The Old Town has very few hotels (we've suggested two below). The Ploce area of Dubrovnik is located just east of the city walls within a 10-minute walk of the Old Town; the area known as Lapad is located a little farther away and has many lodging choices. Buses run regularly from Lapad to the Old Town to the "Pile Gate" entrance. Look for buses #1a, #1b and #6. On average, the trip into the Old Town from Lapad takes about 10 minutes.

DUBROVNIK: PILE (ABOUT 110 YARDS FROM THE OLD TOWN ENTRANCE)

Hilton Imperial (Drop-off location on Day 6)

Enjoy the friendly welcome, exceptional service and wealth of amenities you expect from Hilton hotels amid an atmosphere of 19th-century style and tradition. The spacious guest rooms, which overlook the nearby gardens and rooftops of old Dubrovnik, feature modern décor in cool Mediterranean tones with tasteful wood and marble finishes. After a day of sightseeing, wind down with a workout in the fitness room or a few laps in the pool. On-site dining options include the Porat restaurant, featuring international cuisine and Dalmatian specialties, and the Lobby Bar, offering drinks, snacks and lunch. Marijana Blazica 2 (110 yards from the entrance to Old Town); Phone: 1-800-HILTONS for reservations or 385-(0)20-320-320; www.hilton.com; 147 rooms. Rates: ♦♦♦

DUBROVNIK: LAPAD

Hotel Lapad

Located outside the city walls, this three-star hotel on the marina offers an outdoor swimming pool, bar, large restaurant, nearby public beach and bus connection to the Old Town (otherwise, it's a 20-minute walk). If you want a room with air-conditioning and a balcony, be sure to request one of the "Superior" rooms in the newer wing of the hotel. Lapadska Obala 37; Phone: 385-(0)20-412-436; www.hotel-lapad.hr; 194 rooms. Rates: ♦

Hotel Splendid

This comfortable three-star hotel has rooms with terraces overlooking the Adriatic. Situated on a small quiet beach, it's convenient to the public bus running to Old Town and features amenities that active guests appreciate including clay tennis courts, bike rental, sea kayaking, and scuba diving courses. Masarykov Put 10; Phone: 385-(0)20-433-560; www.hotelimaestral.hr; 59 rooms. Rates: ♦♦

Uvala Hotel

Noted for its modern design by Split architect Dinko Kovačić, the Uvala prides itself on providing a "culture and spirit of wellness." So if you're in the mood to pamper yourself, this is a fine place to stay. Go for a swim in the indoor or outdoor pool and visit the spa for a relaxing massage, mud wrap, manicure or other body treatment. Afterward, enjoy views of the sea or garden from your simple yet comfortable room. Then dine outside on the terrace of the hotel's Mantala Restaurant, featuring a diverse offering of meat, fish and inventive macrobiotic dishes, complemented by a good selection of domestic wines. Masarykov Put 6; Phone: 385-(0)20-433-583; www.hotelimaestral.com; 51 rooms. Rates: ♦♦♦

Dubrovnik Palace Hotel

Sleekly restored after the 90s' conflicts nearly destroyed it, this four-star resort hotel makes a wonderful base from which to explore Dubrovnik's Old Town (just a 10-minute bus ride away). Hovering high on the Lapad Peninsula, with views across the Adriatic to the Elaphite Islands, the hotel doesn't have beach access, but you'll catch plenty of rays on the many terraces surrounding the complex. Among the hotel's array of amenities are one indoor and two outdoor pools, a state-of-the-art wellness center, a restaurant, several bistros and a nightclub. Masarykov Put 20; Phone: 385-(0)20-430-000; www.dubrovnikpalace.hr; 308 rooms. Rates: ♦♦♦♦

DUBROVNIK: OLD TOWN

Hotel Stari Grad

Once the home of an aristocratic family and now a cultural monument under UNESCO's patronage, this small hotel offers simple rooms with amenities such as air-conditioning, satellite TV, mini-bar and direct-dial phone. On the fifth floor, you can enjoy a fine view of Old Town from the terrace. Od Sigurate 4; Phone: 385-(0)20-322-244; www.hotelstarigrad.com; 8 rooms. Rates: ◆◆◆

The Pucic Palace

Set on Dubrovnik's picturesque main square, this 300-year-old former nobleman's house still retains its traditional atmosphere, thanks to the wood-beamed ceilings, wrought iron balustrades, green marble accents, antiques and historic artwork throughout. Modern amenities include satellite TVs, DVD players, plush robes, air-conditioning and fully stocked mini bars. The hotel's Brasserie Café Royal features fine Mediterranean cuisine and seasonal seating on the town square—a perfect spot for people watching. Ulica Od Puca I; Phone: 385-(0)20-326-200; www.thepucicpalace.com; 19 rooms. Rates: ◆◆◆◆◆

DUBROVNIK: PLOCE

Grand Villa Argentina

The Grand Villa Argentina consists of five complexes: Villa Argentina, Villa Glavic, Villa Orsula, Villa Sheherazad and Hotel Argentina—each with its own distinctive and elegant atmosphere—surrounded by gardens and within walking distance of Old Town. Guest rooms are stylishly decorated with a mix of traditional charm and modern comfort. The Sea View rooms look out on Old Town, the gardens and the isle of Lokrum. The entire facility shares a private beach, outdoor sea-water swimming pool, spa and wellness center. Frana Supila 14; Phone: 385-(0)20-440-555; www.gva.hr; 162 rooms and 7 suites. Rates: ◆◆◆◆◆

Private Accommodations

Private accommodations are often less expensive than hotels and occasionally they involve sharing a flat with the owner's family. Be sure you confirm the location of the apartment in advance. For a listing of apartments in Dubrovnik, visit the Dubrovnik Office of Tourism Web site: www.tzdubrovnik.hr (select the "Travel Planning" link).

We hope you've found this information useful, but nothing substitutes for speaking with one of our experienced Trip Consultants. Please call 800-462-2848 Monday-Sunday, between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Pacific time.