

# Dalmatian Coast

DUBROVNIK, THE CROATIAN ISLANDS AND SPLIT

TO RESERVE YOUR  
TRIP CALL  
800-462-2848 OR  
SIGN UP ONLINE [HERE](#)



Important Facts  
*at a glance*

**7 DAYS, 6 NIGHTS**

Click [here](#) for departure dates  
and pricing details

**ROUTE RATING**

Levels 1–3

See [below](#) for details.

**IN BUSINESS FOR  
29 YEARS,  
BACKROADS IS  
RECOGNIZED YEAR IN  
AND YEAR OUT AS  
ONE OF THE WORLD'S  
TOP 10 TRAVEL  
COMPANIES BY  
TRAVEL+LEISURE**

Reclaiming its star billing as a premier vacation destination before Yugoslavia broke apart, coastal Croatia is beloved for its warm turquoise waters, throng of islands and atmospheric towns awash in history. The most intriguing stretch of the Dalmatian Coast—and the setting for your Backroads hiking adventure—is the unspoiled region between Dubrovnik and Split, a mere 100 miles from Italy as the seagull flies. Starting from Dubrovnik, board our private boat for the week and cruise to Mljet, an island oasis blanketed by dense forests and edged with hidden limestone coves. Our next port of call, the Peljesac Peninsula, is just across the water from the verdant isle of Korcula, reputed to be the birthplace of Marco Polo. Here, enjoy a carefree day of hiking on pine- and cypress-draped hills. Then boat to the sun-soaked island paradise of Hvar and wander amid beautifully preserved Renaissance façades and romantic vineyards, celebrating the day with a tasting of sweet local wine. And finally, on the isle of Brac, keep your eyes peeled for goats, and revel in quaint villages, olive orchards and secret beaches as you hike through the protected Blaca Valley. Not to be missed is a glimpse of the 16th-century Blaca Monastery, nestled amongst stunning limestone cliffs and accessible only by foot!

## DAY 1

On the first day of the trip, we meet in Dubrovnik at 9 a.m. in the lobby of the Hilton Imperial Hotel (situated at Marijana Blazica 2, 100 meters from the entrance to Old Town). Please arrive dressed to hike, or bring your hiking clothes in a separate small daypack and change on the boat ride to Mljet. See “Arriving & Departing” for more logistics information.

### PRIVATE BOAT TRANSFER TO MLJET 4 HOURS

**MONTOKUC ROUTE** 5.3 MILES (880-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

SHORTER OPTION: STARI PUT 3.1 MILES (225-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

Welcome to Croatia! After meeting in Dubrovnik, we shuttle 10 minutes to Gruz Harbor, board our private boat for the week and cruise to Mljet, the legendary isle where Homer’s Odysseus was captured by the sea nymph Calypso. Enjoy lunch on board as we head to Polace, a tiny fishing village known for its small 4th-century B.C. Roman palace. (*Polace* means “palace” in Croatian.) Our first hike offers a wonderful and challenging taste of the ruggedly beautiful island of Mljet, whose pine- and oak-clad hills rise steeply above the sea, harboring ancient stone villages and vineyards. It’s also a great introduction to green and unspoiled Mljet National Park, the first virgin Adriatic ecosystem under government-sponsored protection. Check out the Roman palace before following Stari Put, an old Roman way that connects Polace with two 10,000-year-old “lakes” (actually inlets), considered unique thanks to their narrow passages out to the sea, which give them a mix of salt and fresh water. Notice the island in the middle of Veliko jezero (“Big Lake”)—home to a former 12th-century Benedictine monastery that was once the cultural, religious and political center of Mljet. Consider going for a brisk swim in the turquoise waters or taking the 5-minute ferry ride to the monastery. The hike continues along the lake’s craggy



Our Accommodations  
Casual Inns

#### **HOTEL ODISEJ**

(1 night) This quiet simple hotel sits above a beach in the heart of Mljet National Park. Pomena, Mljet Island  
phone: 385-(0)20-362-111  
www.hotelodisej.hr

#### **HOTEL FERAL**

(1 night) Set against the Bay of Brna and surrounded by thick pine woodland, this hotel offers a swimming pool and rocky beach.  
Brna, Korcula Island  
phone: 385-(0)20-832-080  
www.hotel-feral.hr

#### **HOTEL PODSTINE**

(2 nights) This beautifully restored hotel sits amid palms, pines and citrus trees and has a private beach and tennis courts.  
Hvar Town, Hvar Island  
phone: 385-(0)21-740-400  
www.podstine.com

#### **PALACA DESKOVIC**

(2 nights) With charming rooms filled with exquisite antiques, this four-star hotel and registered cultural monument is situated within a renovated family palace.  
Pucisca, Brac Island  
phone: 385-(0)21-778-240  
www.palaca-deskovic.com

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

shoreline through the picturesque hamlet of Babine Kuce (a good spot to refresh with a cold beer!) and finally into the seaside hamlet of Pomena, a town whose name means “tomato” in Croatian.

We wrap up our day at the simple, but charming seaside Odisej Hotel, Mljet National Park’s only accommodations. This evening we get better acquainted over cocktails and a hearty dinner in the hotel’s *taverna*. *Lodging: Hotel Odisej*

#### **DAY 2**

**PELJESAC PENINSULA HIKE 4.3 MILES (820-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)**

**PRIVATE BOAT TRANSFER TO VIGANJ 2.5 HOURS**

**PRIVATE BOAT TRANSFER TO KORCULA 30 MINUTES**

**FREE TIME IN KORCULA TOWN**

**SHUTTLE TO HOTEL FERAL 45 MINUTES**

Settle in for the scenic trip on the Adriatic to the Peljesac Peninsula, a region known for Dingac, its specialty red wine. Disembark in the port town of Viganj, a pleasant village with a seafaring history. From the waterfront, ascend 500 feet along an old Roman path past vineyards and crumbling stone houses (many are undergoing restoration thanks to UNESCO funding), up to a ridgeline offering stellar views of the peninsula and Korcula Island. We stop for lunch at a traditional farmhouse before heading to the port of Orebic, once the maritime center of the Peljesac Peninsula.

After the hike, we’re back on the water en route to Korcula (pronounced KOHR-choolah), an island lush with vineyards, olive groves, and forests of pine, oak and cypress. You’ll have some time to explore the walled medieval town of Korcula, the island’s elegant centerpiece and 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, ruling on and off for more than 800 years and 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. Korcula’s thick walls and imposing towers—once a defense against passing pirates and other enemies—date to the 14th century. After our visit, a short shuttle brings us to our quiet waterfront hotel, where we’ll settle in for the night. *Lodging: Hotel Feral*

#### **DAY 3**

**SHUTTLE TO POPLAT 45 MINUTES**

**COASTAL STROLL 4.7 MILES (130-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)**

**OR MOUNT HUM SUMMIT HIKE 5.2 MILES (1,150-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)**

**PRIVATE BOAT TRANSFER TO HVAR 2½ HOURS**

Awake refreshed, grab your hiking gear and get ready to explore. A shuttle brings us to Poplat, where you can choose to stroll along the seaside, cutting through conifer forests and olive groves, or challenge yourself on a summit hike to ruins of an Austro-Hungarian naval observatory. We’ll have several relaxing hours on the water, eating lunch on board and, weather-permitting, stopping for a swim en route to Hvar, one of the southern Dalmatian archipelago’s most chic and popular destinations. (The fact that Hvar receives an average of 2,718 hours of sunshine per year probably has a lot to do with its popularity!) Translucent waters lap at its rugged inlets; fragrant lavender, heather and pines carpet the landscape; and a steep central limestone ridge crowns Hvar’s natural beauty. In



### Top Reasons Why you should take this trip

We provide a variety of route options so you can do as much or as little activity as you like each day.

■ 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 or a lift when you need it the most--allowing you to enjoy a carefree vacation full of fun and relaxation.

■ Traveling with Backroads is about making connections: with places and people, history and culture, fellow travelers--perhaps you'll even discover something new about yourself!

■ 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**

glamorous Hvar Town, you can view Croatia's most impressive collection of Venetian Renaissance architecture. Gloriously preserved façades and bougainvillea-draped houses provide an elegant backdrop to the constant flurry of well-heeled activity. Our hotel is located west of the town center and overlooks a shimmering bay. *Lodging: Hotel Podstine*

#### DAY 4

##### PRIVATE BOAT TRANSFER TO DUBOVICA 45 MINUTES

##### CLIFFS AND BEACHES ROUTE 3.6 MILES (1,140-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

Savor a leisurely breakfast at the hotel before embarking on a boat trip to Dubovica, where we begin our hike to the charming fishing village of Sveta Nedjelja. The panorama becomes increasingly dramatic during the ascent along the Sveti Nikola (Saint Nicholas, the high limestone ridge stretching across the middle of the island), with plunging views of the Adriatic in both directions. Along the way, pass ancient stone terraces topped by tiny plots of lavender, vegetables, grape vines, fig trees and olive groves. Every so often, our route sweeps down to isolated beaches. Sveta Nedjelja is best known for its wines, particularly the red Plavac, one of Hvar's most acclaimed vintages. Also notable is the cave situated above the village, thought to date back to the Neolithic Age; now the site contains the remains of a small monastery built by the Augustinians in the 15th century and abandoned in the late 1700s.

In the afternoon, we taste wines produced by Zlatan Plenkovic, one of Croatia's most celebrated winemakers. You'll have a chance to try the powerful red ZlatanPlavac, one of the best wines in its category. A highlight is the winery itself, which sits on the water and has a nice patio—it's also a restaurant and a marina for small boats.

From Sveta Nedjelja, we boat back to Hvar Town, where you'll have time to relax in the marble-paved central square, which is the largest in Dalmatia. Also check out 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 at your leisure in Hvar Town. Wondering where to find the best *strukli*? Just ask your leaders, who are always happy to recommend the best local restaurants. *Lodging: Hotel Podstine*

#### DAY 5

##### HVAR COAST ROUTE 4.3 MILES (210-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

##### PRIVATE BOAT TRANSFER TO BRAC 4 HOURS

This morning we take a quick shuttle to the romantic little fishing village of Milna. From here, hike back to Hvar Town, ascending approximately 200 feet and then following a path along the craggy, mostly level coastline past hidden beaches and through fragrant pine woodland. We'll have lunch in the harbor or near an adjacent bay before we boat to Brac, our final island destination. The journey is long, but if it's sunny, the boat deck is the perfect place to catch up on some reading or indulge in a well-deserved afternoon siesta.

Brac (pronounced "bratch"), whose name means "the Big One," is the largest island of Dalmatia. With its arid scrub-covered uplands, cypress forests, orange and olive trees, drystone walls and famed cheeses, it's also the most Mediterranean of the archipelago. Since ancient Greek times, Brac has been renowned for its milky-white marble, used in the construction of Diocletian's palace in Split, numerous buildings in Venice and the White House in Washington, D.C. Our hotel for the next two nights is Palaca Deskovic, a recently refurbished cultural monument located on one of the many bays on Brac's north coast. *Lodging: Palaca Deskovic*



Backroads' route rating system is the most comprehensive and accurate in the travel industry. To find out how these ratings translate into varying levels of physical challenge and activity, please visit our Web site

—[www.backroads.com](http://www.backroads.com)—

and select the route rating button for the trip of your choice.

#### LEVEL 1

2–5 miles/day  
2–3 hours/day

#### LEVEL 2

5–7 miles/day  
2–4 hours/day

#### LEVEL 3

7–9 miles/day  
3–5 hours/day

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

## DAY 6

### SHUTTLE TO BLACA VALLEY 1 HOUR

#### BLACA VALLEY HIKE 5.2 MILES (690-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

LONGER OPTION: NEREZISCA 9.2 MILES (820-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

### SHUTTLE TO PUCISCA 1 HOUR

After breakfast we shuttle to Blaca Valley, stopping en route to admire Vidova Gora, the highest mountain on the Croatian Islands. Today's outstanding hike leads through the protected Blaca Valley to a 16th-century monastery accessible only by foot. On a trail bordered by limestone cliffs, you'll gradually descend to the seaside, passing vineyards and olive orchards. For more exercise, begin your hike in the charming town of Nerezisca and meander along stone-bordered farming roads through peaceful rural landscape dotted with olive trees. The route climbs up, providing stunning views of the Adriatic Sea to the west, before descending to the trailhead of the Blaca Valley hike. We reconvene at a tiny family restaurant off the beaten path, where we're rewarded with locally produced wine, cheese, bread and *prsut*, a Croatian cured ham.

After sharing stories and snacks, we'll shuttle to Zlatni Rat (Golden Horn), the most beautiful pebble beach on the Adriatic coast. Winds here perpetually shift the shape and position of the beach and help make it a mecca for wind surfers from around the world. Stroll along the tree-canopied promenade from Zlatni Rat to Bol, passing old stone houses, lively cafés and vendors selling local specialties such as lavender, honey and limestone crafts. After the day's adventures, head back to the hotel to put your feet up and reflect on your Croatian journey. This evening we're in for a treat—a private performance by local *kelapa* minstrels, who sing traditional a cappella-style Croatian folk music. Afterward, we head to the hotel's restaurant for dinner and a farewell toast. *Lodging: Palaca Deskovic*

## DAY 7

### OPTIONAL HARBOR AND LIGHTHOUSE ROUTE 2 MILES

#### TRANSPORT TO THE SPLIT AIRPORT 45 MINUTES

After breakfast at the hotel, you're welcome to enjoy one last stroll around the harbor and out to the lighthouse before taking the final boat journey back to the mainland. You'll be met by a motor coach that transports you to the Split airport. Please see "Arriving & Departing" for end-of-trip logistics.

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## 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 in Dubrovnik at 9 a.m. in the lobby of the Hilton Imperial (situated 100 meters from the entrance to Old Town; address: Marijana Blazica 2; phone: 385-(0)20-320-320). There's a comfortable café inside the hotel where you can sit and wait for your Backroads Trip Leaders. For more information on this hotel, please see



### 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.

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

“Where to Stay Before & After Your Trip.” **Please arrive dressed to hike, or bring your hiking clothes in a separate small daypack and change during the boat ride to Mljet.** After meeting, we shuttle 10 minutes to Gruz Harbor, board our private boat for the week and cruise 4 hours to Mljet Island.

### TRIP CONCLUSION

On the last day of the trip, Backroads provides transportation to the Split airport, arriving by 12:30 p.m. From Split you can catch flights to European cities such as Zagreb, Vienna, Frankfurt, Rome and London. (The Split airport is very small; typically, you don't need to arrive at the airport more than 1–1½ hours before your flight.)

**Extending your stay in Split:** If you'd like to spend time in historic Split, home to the spectacular palace of Diocletian, a World Heritage site, your Backroads leaders can help you get a taxi to the town center. (You can catch a cab when we arrive at the port at approximately 11:30 a.m. The drive to the center of town takes about 5 minutes.)

**Extending your stay in Trogir:** Due to the lack of high-quality accommodations in Split, we recommend instead staying in the charming port town and World Heritage site of Trogir, located 12 miles away from Split and easily accessible by taxi.

(Please see “Where to Stay Before & After Your Trip” for suggested accommodations in Split and Trogir; see “Extending Your Vacation” for tips on what to see and do during your visit.)

**Returning to Dubrovnik:** Buses for Dubrovnik leave regularly from the bus station near the ferry docks in Split harbor and take about 4 hours; however, be aware that the posted schedules are often incorrect. You may prefer to rent a car and drive the 135 miles; Eurocar and Budget have proven to be reliable companies with very helpful employees. More information on these options can be found at [www.dubrovnik-online.com](http://www.dubrovnik-online.com). Croatian Airlines may also be able to arrange travel for you and can be reached from the United States at 973-884-3401—calling is much easier than using their Web site.

### FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS

This trip begins in Dubrovnik and ends in Split. We suggest flying into Dubrovnik's International (Cilipi) Airport (airport code: DBV; [www.airport-dubrovnik.hr](http://www.airport-dubrovnik.hr)). Because of our early meeting time, you'll need to arrive in Dubrovnik the day before the trip starts. Many people have found it cost-effective and convenient to purchase round-trip tickets from home to a city in Europe, and then buy two one-way tickets—one to get to the trip start in Dubrovnik, and one to return from Split to that European city.

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](http://www.backroads.com/gettingthere). (Note that most travel agents and online travel sites charge a fee for their consulting services.)

If you're having difficulty arranging a flight out of the Split-Kastela Airport (SPU) on the last day of the trip, we suggest contacting Croatian Airlines at 973-884-3401 (their North American office), for booking. Their reservation agents are very helpful and can help you get to hub cities, including Dubrovnik, from Split. It's easier to speak to agents directly than it is to try booking your flight on the Croatian Airlines Web site ([www.croatiaairlines.com](http://www.croatiaairlines.com)).

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

## TRANSPORTATION FROM THE DUBROVNIK AIRPORT TO THE HILTON IMPERIAL AND CENTRAL DUBROVNIK

The airport is located 30–45 minutes outside of the city.

**Taxi service** from the airport to the Hilton Imperial costs approximately \$40.

Croatia Airways Bus service (through Atlas) is available from the airport to Dubrovnik’s central bus station (a 15–minute ride) and Pile Old Town gates (just 110 yards from the Hilton Imperial Hotel), taking about 40 minutes at a cost of about \$5.50.

## WHERE TO STAY BEFORE & AFTER YOUR TRIP

### SUGGESTED ACCOMMODATIONS

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](http://www.backroads.com/gettingthere).

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.

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**.

Because of the high demand for accommodations, we suggest you book your hotels—especially those in Dubrovnik—as early as possible.

You can find accommodations in Dubrovnik in these sections of the city: Pile, Lapad, the Old Town and Ploce. The Old Town has very few hotels (we’ve suggested two below). The Ploce area 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, JUST 110 YARDS FROM THE OLD TOWN ENTRANCE

### HILTON IMPERIAL (OUR MEETING LOCATION ON DAY 1)

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); 800-HILTONS for reservations or 385-(0)20-320-320; [www.hilton.com](http://www.hilton.com); 147 rooms. Rates: ◆◆◆

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

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## 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](http://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 rentals, sea kayaking, and scuba diving courses. Masarykov Put 10; phone: 385-(0)20-433-560; [www.hotelimaestral.hr](http://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](http://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](http://www.dubrovnikpalace.hr); 308 rooms. Rates: ◆◆◆◆

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## 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](http://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

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

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 1; phone: 385-(0)20-326-200; www.thepucipalace.com; 19 rooms. Rates: ◆◆◆◆◆

**DUBROVNIK: PLOCE**

**GRAND VILLA ARGENTINA**

The Grand Villa Argentina consists of five complexes: Villa Argentina, Villa Glavic, Villa Orsula, Villa Sheherezad 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 involve sharing a flat with the owner's family. Be sure to 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).

**EXTENDING YOUR VACATION**

**TROGIR**

If you have time after your trip, you may wish to spend a day exploring the World Heritage site of Trogir, a picturesque fortified settlement resting partly on the island of Civo and partly on the mainland. With two millennia of history, the old quarter contains some of the best-preserved Romanesque-Gothic architecture in Central Europe. Visit the 9th-century church and 15th-century town hall, the medieval and Renaissance palaces, and the grand St. Lawrence Cathedral, lauded for its beautifully embellished main west portal, a masterpiece in Seget stone carved by the famed Croatian sculptor (and Trogir native son) Radovan. If your timing is right, your visit may coincide with one of the many special art exhibits, folkloric shows and classical music concerts that occur in Trogir throughout the year.

**SPLIT**

Split, Croatia's second largest city, is also worth visiting. Set against a dramatic mountain backdrop, Split is home to numerous museums, galleries, wine cellars and the Marjan Forest Park, an oasis of greenery with pleasant promenades, nature paths and vista points. Be sure to take in the enormous palace of the emperor Diocletian, a World Heritage site considered to be one of the finest examples of Roman architecture on the Adriatic coast. Additional attractions include seasonal festivals and concerts scheduled throughout the warmer months.

**Hotel Room Rate Guide**  
(U.S. dollars per night)

Up to \$100 .....	◆
\$101–200 .....	◆◆
\$201–300 .....	◆◆◆
\$301–500 .....	◆◆◆◆
\$501 and up .....	◆◆◆◆◆

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## TROGIR

At this time, there are not many hotels in Trogir. The following two, while small and basic, are exceptionally well located.

### HOTEL FONTANA

Set along Trogir's waterfront, this small quaint hotel has 13 simple guest rooms. Obrov 1; phone: 385-(0)21-885-744; [www.fontana-commerce.htnet.hr](http://www.fontana-commerce.htnet.hr); 13 rooms. Rates: ◆

### HOTEL CONCORDIA

The pleasant family-run Hotel Concordia is located in a 300-year-old building in the heart of Trogir's historic city center. Rooms have private bathrooms, air-conditioning, satellite TVs, and views of the waterfront. Obala Bana Berislavica 22; phone: 385-(0)21-885-400; [www.concordia-hotel.htnet.hr](http://www.concordia-hotel.htnet.hr); 14 rooms. Rates: ◆◆

### PRIVATE ACCOMMODATIONS

You may find more options if you reserve private accommodations. For details, visit [www.trogir-online.com/eng/hotel.asp](http://www.trogir-online.com/eng/hotel.asp).

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## SPLIT

There is also a shortage of good hotels in Split. We suggest these basic accommodations should you wish to spend a day exploring this historic town.

### HOTEL CONSUL

The small family-owned Hotel Consul offers cozy and welcoming accommodations, not far from the city center. Simply decorated guest rooms offer air-conditioning, direct-dial phones, wireless Internet access, satellite TVs, a mini bar and a bathroom with Jacuzzi tub. Trscanska 34; phone: 385-(0)21-340-130; [www.hotel-consul.net](http://www.hotel-consul.net); 15 rooms and 4 suites. Rates: ◆◆

### HOTEL PARK

This neighborhood seaside hotel offers simple but pleasant accommodations in one of Croatia's most beautiful cities. Recently renovated, all guest rooms of this four-star hotel are air-conditioned. On-site facilities include a health club and an atmospheric restaurant with a big palm-shaded terrace. To reach the city center, plan on a 15- to 20-minute walk. Hatzeov perivoj 3; phone: 385-(0)21-406-400; [www.hotelpark-split.hr](http://www.hotelpark-split.hr); 54 rooms and 3 suites. Rates: ◆◆◆

### PRIVATE ACCOMMODATIONS

Private accommodations are also available in Split. You may book through Turist Biro ([www.turistbiro-split.hr](http://www.turistbiro-split.hr), phone: 385-(0)21-342-142; [turist-biro-split@st.htnet.hr](mailto:turist-biro-split@st.htnet.hr)).

**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.**