

CULTURAL WALKING ADVENTURE

Croatia

Dubrovnik & the Dalmatian Coast



CLASSIC JOURNEYS
THE WORLD'S FINEST WALKING TOURS



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*Classic Journeys
provides unbeatable
access to experiences
around the globe.”*

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TRAVEL + LEISURE

Life Along the Adriatic

On this earth, we have never seen anywhere more beautiful than the southern coast of Croatia. Even the grandeur of Dubrovnik—for 500 years the peer of Venice—didn't prepare us for the simple, sweeping vistas along the Adriatic. We recommend going now, before the growing buzz attracts the crowds. Today, you can still spend an hour or two on a farm trail between the aquamarine sea and a patchwork of tiny fields with a scattering of goats—and never see another visitor. Again and again, you'll see a red-tiled roof or a gorgeous little bay and imagine for a moment that you're in Provence or on the Italian coast. But this is definitely Croatia, where the tempo is slower, more peaceful. And you'll find it incredibly easy to engage with the locals, whether our friends who run a family vineyard or the lace-maker who invites us into her workshop. This is our newest favorite destination and we are convinced that you will agree.

The Classic Journeys Difference

- ACTIVE HIKING & WALKING
- LOCAL WELL-CONNECTED GUIDES
- PREMIERE HOTELS
- FOODIE FOCUSED
- HANDCRAFTED TRIP DESIGN
- MORE IS INCLUDED

What's Included

- All breakfasts, 4 lunches and 4 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip, handle behind-the-scenes logistics and are there to help with anything
- Admissions to tastings, historic sites and other scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

Above & Beyond Benefits

→ PRIVILEGED ACCESS EVENTS

One-of-a-kind access to remarkable people, places and activities arranged just for you.

→ WINE ON US

In many regions, we uncork wonderful local wines at every dinner, compliments of Classic Journeys.

→ INVISIBLE CHECK-IN

When your group arrives, we whisk you and your bags to your room immediately. No waiting – no tipping.

Terrain

Easy to moderate on good trails and coastal paths. An average of 2 to 3 hours of walking per day, with a mini-van usually in support.

DAY 1 »

Dubrovnik

Dubrovnik, like the picturesque Dalmatian coastline, feels undisturbed; a provocative glimpse into the past. The region's weather, geography, and natural beauty recall the Western Mediterranean of an earlier era - without the developers and swarms of tourists. Even its name is a historic relic: Dalmatia, dating from its early years as an ancient Roman province.

On a walk through this gem of a medieval city, your guide immerses you into Dubrovnik's fascinating history, including its 500-year rivalry with Venice for domination of the Adriatic. It still boasts beautifully preserved limestone buildings with red-tiled roofs, quaint streets with charming shops and cafes, and massive walls that allow you to experience the city from many vantage points. You'll even be impressed by the cleanliness of Dubrovnik's streets. The secret? Each night, the fire brigade hoses down the streets of the entire Old Town.

You'll have time to relax and regroup at the hotel before dinner at our favorite quayside seafood restaurant for local specialties like sautéed squid or creamy risotto. Enjoy one of the many freshly prepared regional dishes that will remind you of Italian cuisine.

MEALS: D

OVERNIGHT: DUBROVNIK

DAY 2 »

Dubrovnik / Cavtat

After breakfast, you'll head towards our hosts' agriturismo farm, located in the countryside in the Konavle region for a hands-on cooking class. Immerse yourself in the experience of learning how to prepare the traditional dishes of the southern Croatian region. Prepare, course after course, and with the friendly help of the welcoming family, your delicious and authentic farm lunch. The instruction focuses on seasonal ingredients picked fresh from the garden, gathering fresh eggs, and even milking the neighbor's goat.

From the farm, you'll arrive at Cavtat, a Provençal-like village nestled on a little harbor and known for its beaches. If you love Provence or Italy's Cinque Terre, but prefer an area with fewer tourists, Cavtat will delight you. Following your leisurely visit, return to Dubrovnik in time to unwind before dinner on your own this evening.

MEALS: B, L

OVERNIGHT: DUBROVNIK

DAY 3 »

Dubrovnik / Lokrum

On the first of several ferry rides you'll take this week, you'll notice right away how calm the waters are. The sea off this southern portion of the Dalmatian Coast is so placid you might see water skiers crisscrossing it. Even sailboats are almost always under motor power, owing to the gentle breezes along this stretch of shoreline.

A short cruise over crystalline waters leads you to Lokrum, one of nearly 1,200 islands just off the coast of Dubrovnik. As legend has it, these are the islands where Odysseus was seduced by the sultry nymph Calypso and lingered for seven years on his way back to Ithaca from Troy. You'll spend the whole day on this beautiful, uninhabited island. There's plenty to do, as the island is a beautiful nature reserve with botanical gardens and a fortress. Peacocks wander everywhere and will show off for you. The island even has a lake of its own, as well as some of Dalmatia's best rock beaches. The waters around here aren't just calm; they're clean and clear up to a depth of 30 feet or more. Taking advantage of the picturesque setting, you'll get the opportunity for a picnic and a swim.

A short walk after lunch leads you out of the reserve to the ferry landing and the trip back to Dubrovnik. Here, if you'd like, relax at the hotel, enjoy some fine shopping, or join your guide for a late afternoon walk along the magnificent walls of the city. As your reward, the afternoon sun bathes the tile roofs and stone walls in a warm, golden glow. Dinner tonight is at a café overlooking the floodlit buildings of the enchanting main square.

MEALS: B, L, D OVERNIGHT: DUBROVNIK

DAY 4 »

Pelješac Peninsula

Departing Dubrovnik at midmorning, you'll drive north along the coast to the Pelješac peninsula, Croatia's version of Napa Valley. Your first stop is a Franciscan church and former monastery, once home to a large monastic order. Pause in the tranquil setting and enjoy the gardens, then set off on a two-hour stroll along the same paths used by local vineyard workers as they care for the vines.

Just in time for a late lunch, you'll come upon a winery, owned by our friend, Mario, and his father, Teo. The first privately owned winery to resume operations after the fall of communism in Croatia, it now produces an excellent red—reminiscent of a Bordeaux—as well as a fine white and a memorable dessert wine. Our genial host welcomes us with a tasting of the family treasures, accompanied by local cheeses, meats, olives and fruits served in the cellar and tasting room.

After parting company with Mario in the late afternoon, you'll head to Hvar, which is ranked as one of the world's ten most beautiful islands. Your hotel is in Hvar town, located at the tip of the island, with magnificent views.

MEALS: B, L, D OVERNIGHT: HVAR

DAY 5 »

Hvar

From Hvar, you'll venture out on a morning walk through lavender fields and olive groves to the nearby village of Dol, tucked into the foothills of the mountains that form the spine of the island. Surrounded by nature, the rustic ambiance offers the perfect backdrop for a scenic stroll.

After a picnic lunch on a private beach, you'll return to Hvar. Once known as the Portofino of its day, King Edward VIII and Wallis Simpson sought refuge here just a few months before he abdicated the British throne. This picturesque island continues to allure travelers with its azure coastline, fresh seafood, inviting locals, and sunny Mediterranean climate.

You might dine tonight at the hotel or opt for one of the excellent restaurants catering to both locals and the yachting set attracted by Hvar's fair weather and friendly residents. Cheers (or zivjeli, as they say here) as you toast to your time on the idyllic island.

MEALS: B, L OVERNIGHT: HVAR

DAY 6 »

Hvar

Your explorations today capture the essence of Hvar, "as golden as the honey the island is famous for." Vineyards, lavender fields and honey-colored buildings line the route to the coastal village of Jelsa. Your walk continues past olive groves and fields of fragrant herbs leading you to a working olive mill, where a cooperative of small-scale olive growers brings their crops to be crushed. During a demonstration of ancient pressing techniques, you'll be treated to a tasting of the oils accompanied by the local crusty bread.

Back in Hvar, you'll have the remainder of the day at your leisure before dinner. Stroll through town exploring the charming shops, lounge by the nearby beach, or simply relax at the hotel.

MEALS: B, D OVERNIGHT: HVAR

DAY 7 »

Split

After a morning ferry ride to Split, you'll explore on foot and take in the eye-catching architecture of the UNESCO World Heritage Site. At its heart, is an ancient palace built by the Roman emperor Diocletian in the third century A.D. Your guided walk offers an engaging look at Diocletian's Palace and historic sites that are this city's trademarks.

MEALS: B

Tour Hotels



[Hilton Imperial Dubrovnik](#)

Built in 1895 and renovated in 2005, the hotel blends Belle Epoque style with comfort and technology. Spacious guest rooms, decorated in wood and marble finishes, overlook gardens and rooftops of old Dubrovnik. The hotel also has an indoor pool.

NIGHTS: 3 nights



[Adriana, Hvar Marina Hotel & Spa](#)

Overlooking the old city centre, Adriana offers breathtaking panoramic views of the town and marina. Whether you are relaxing at the rooftop saltwater swimming pool or enjoying a massage at the Oasis Spa, Adriana is the perfect place to unwind.

NIGHTS: 3 nights

Arrival & Departure

→ ARRIVAL DETAILS

START LOCATION: **Lobby of Hilton Imperial Dubrovnik**

START CITY: **Dubrovnik**

START TIME: **2:00 PM**

→ DEPARTURE DETAILS

END LOCATION: **Split city center**

END CITY: **Split**

END TIME: **1:00 PM**