

# CLASSIC JOURNEYS

THE WORLD'S FINEST WALKING TOURS



## Croatia

Dubrovnik & the Dalmatian Coast





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

TRAVEL + LEISURE

## Life Along the Adriatic

The Dalmatian Coast has long been a favorite destination for Roman emperors, medieval pirates, and today's modern yachting crowd, and it's easy to see why with over a thousand spectacular islands dotting its coastline. Classic Journeys invites you to make sense of it all with an immersive cultural walking tour that reveals the region's rich history, breathtaking landscapes and incredibly welcoming people. Explore the cobblestone streets of Dubrovnik, a lush nature reserve and Game of Thrones filming sites on Lokrum Island, vineyards on the Pelješac Peninsula, and olive groves and lavender fields on the island of Hvar. You'll be invited into hands-on cooking classes at a family-owned agriturismo, intimate wine tastings by father-and-son winemakers, and a master class in ancient olive techniques amongst the groves. Each step of your journey is enriched by the insights of exceptionally well-connected local guides who share insider stories and access to hidden gems. Conclude your adventure with a guided exploration of Diocletian's Palace in Split, where history and modernity beautifully intertwine, ensuring an authentic experience you won't find anywhere else.







DAY 1 »

## Dubrovnik

- Walk atop Dubrovnik's city walls for panoramic Adriatic views
- Dine seaside on local Dalmatian specialties in Old Town

The fabled city of Dubrovnik has long been a prized jewel for emperors, merchants, and mariners who vied for influence along the Adriatic. Your expert local guide—your well-connected friend—unveils the city's fascinating past, from its 500-year rivalry with Venice to the secrets behind its spotless limestone streets, which are carefully washed every night by the local fire brigade. With each step, the grandeur of red-tiled roofs, marble lanes, and majestic gateways connects you to a centuries-old story of independence, seafaring, and cosmopolitan openness.

Begin your explorations on foot atop the iconic city walls—an engineering marvel that has withstood centuries of sieges. The elevated walkway grants glorious views out to the endless blue of the Adriatic and downward into the labyrinth of Dubrovnik's Old Town rooftops, lively squares, and bustling harbor. After lunch, your guided walk leads through the heart of the Old Town at eye level: lose yourself among artisan shops, charming cafés, and hidden corners still echoing with history. Your evening is capped with a welcome dinner at a quayside seafood restaurant beloved by locals. Picture a table beside the lapping water, the city walls rising around you as plates of sautéed squid, creamy risotto, and just-caught fish showcase the flavors that define Dalmatian cuisine.

MEALS: D

OVERNIGHT: DUBROVNIK

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

DAY 2 »

## Dalmatian Coast / Lokrum Island

- Explore Roman-era trails and panoramic village landscapes
- Join a family to harvest, cook, and enjoy a homegrown meal

This morning, leave the ancient town behind and find yourself among rolling hills, old stone chapels, and olive groves. Your walk follows a rural trail once traveled by Romans, passing ruined aqueducts and pausing for panoramic views that stretch to the sea. Along the way, your guide brings local legends to life—stories of saints and homesteaders who shaped this fertile countryside with determination and care. Eventually, you arrive at a family homestead, where your hosts welcome you in their farm-to-table garden. Together, you'll stroll through the eco-friendly garden, gathering sun-warmed fruits and vegetables while hearing stories of the family's 500-year heritage on this land. Next, you join your hosts in the kitchen to bake bread using a traditional recipe and help prepare lunch with the just-picked produce, all the while learning about their culinary traditions and local winemaking. Each course is paired with the family's own red or white wine, making the meal a genuine celebration of Croatian hospitality and tradition.

Later, a short ferry ride of just a few minutes brings you to the tranquil island of Lokrum, a lush nature reserve that offers a stark contrast to Dubrovnik's medieval walls. Enjoy a guided walk through a landscape rich in history and natural beauty. You'll discover the ruins of an 11th-century Benedictine monastery, learn about the island's connection to Richard the Lionheart, and visit locations used in filming *Game of Thrones*. The path winds through exotic botanical gardens, past peacocks roaming freely among ancient stones, and up to Fort Royal for panoramic views of Dubrovnik and the surrounding islands.

MEALS: B, L

OVERNIGHT: DUBROVNIK

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

DAY 3 »

## Pelješac Peninsula Vineyards

- Stroll coastal trails to family-run Pelješac vineyards
- Taste award-winning local wines and regional cheeses

Today, you'll experience for yourself what makes the Pelješac peninsula, Croatia's premier wine region, so celebrated among wine enthusiasts. The area is renowned for its robust Plavac Mali reds, sun-drenched vineyards, and family-run estates that have honed their craft across generations. On foot, set out along Croatia's coast, where trails weave past shimmering salt pans and peaceful inlets. The walk offers changing views—the checkerboard of salt pans near Ston—and then sun-drenched vineyards that lead you to a family-owned winery. Here, you're welcomed by our friends Maro and Teo for an intimate tasting of their award-winning wines, paired perfectly with local cheeses and prosciutto. Your hosts explain the unique terroir of the region and how it influences the distinct flavors of the wines you're tasting.

The Dalmatian Coast has been a crucial maritime route for centuries, with its history of seafaring dating back to ancient times. As the afternoon light softens, make your way to the island of Hvar by boat, knowing that you are part of a long tradition of Adriatic seafaring, following routes that have been used for millennia by everyone from ancient Greek traders to Venetian merchants, and now, you. Arriving on to Hvar, a hilltop fortress signals your arrival before you descend into the lively harbor town. There, settle into your perfectly situated boutique hotel with breathtaking views of the Adriatic.

Every Season = Blooming Season

Every time on Hvar and along the Dalmatian Coast reveals a new reason to fall in love with the ever-changing landscape and traditions. In spring, fields and stone terraces come alive with wildflowers—poppies, irises, wild orchids, and the early green of lavender—while fragrant fruit blossoms and herbs perfume the air, and local life shifts outdoors with renewed energy. By early summer, lavender bursts into its iconic purple bloom, filling the hillsides with color and scent and buzzing with the excitement of harvest festivals. In fall, the land turns golden as grape and olive harvests begin, and local families invite you to share in age-old picking and pressing traditions—an invitation to savor just-pressed oil and the season's new wines, all in the company of a landscape that is always in bloom, and a community always ready to welcome you.

MEALS: B, L

OVERNIGHT: HVAR

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

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## DAY 4 »

### Hvar Island

- Wander Vrboska's canals and Jelsa's vibrant coastal squares
- Walk scenic trails and master olive oil tasting with locals

Vrboska, called "Little Venice," will enchant you with its winding canal lined by Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque houses connected by dozens of small bridges. This tiny town emerged in the 15th century from a fishing village, and ruins from Roman times still peek out around the edges. This section of Hvar is rich in Mediterranean flora: fragrant pine and cypress, silvery olive groves, lavender fields, and wild rock roses bloom alongside the trails. Colorful berries dot the shrubs in spring and early summer, and the persistent hum of cicadas lets you know you're deep in the Dalmatian countryside. The shade provided by pine forests makes this walk comfortably cool even on warmer days.

Your walk is punctuated by small churches and stone ruins, with occasional glimpses into traditional agricultural activity—fields, dry-stone walls, and the ancient methods still used today. Jelsa, at the end of your route, is the wine capital of the island, with vibrant squares, local cafés, and delicious opportunities for gelato and a seaside lunch.

This afternoon, a scenic walk leads to an olive grove owned by our friends where they have over 1000 trees of 12 different varieties, as well as lavender, figs, citrus fruits, and seasonal vegetables. They join us among their shimmery green olive trees where the sound of the dirt under our feet mixes with the explanations of their traditional methods of olive oil production, including the harvesting process and the techniques used to extract high-quality oil. It all culminates in a mini master class in how to taste the oils. There is time to relax back in Hvar later this afternoon by the pool or with some shopping. Shops on the islands are highly regarded for the quality of their lavender, honey, olive oil, wine, coral jewelry, and handmade goods.

MEALS: B, L, D

OVERNIGHT: HVAR

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

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## DAY 5 »

### Hvar Island / Split

- Walk Hvar's lavender terraces to a hilltop village distillery
- Glide to Split and dine on handmade pasta with seafood

Begin your day in Hvar's legendary lavender country, where time seems to stand still amid fields edged with ancient stone walls and the heady scent of rosemary and thyme. Your walk ascends through the storied terraces from the heart of the island's lavender fields to the historic hilltop village of Velo Grablje. You'll pause to visit a distillery where islanders have transformed aromatic herbs and lavender into essential oils for generations—a living link to Hvar's rural soul.

Continuing your walk downhill, enjoy the sound of birds, distant goat bells, and the sight of wildflowers or fruit trees depending on the season. The path eventually opens onto the evocative ruins of Malo Grablje—a beautiful, abandoned stone village now overgrown with Mediterranean flora.

Later, board a catamaran and glide across the sparkling Adriatic to Split's palm-lined harbor. Your walk to your hotel—conveniently located just a few steps from the lively Riva promenade and overlooking the harbor—takes you along bustling quays and the ancient walls of Diocletian's Palace, where the city brims with Mediterranean energy. After you settle in, find your way to the terrace, and raise a glass to the sweeping views of the city, the harbor's gentle bustle, and distant islands on the horizon. Your dinner this evening features classic Dalmatian cuisine. Think along the lines of handmade pasta with fresh seafood, and a platter of local cheeses, olives, and olive oil—each bite a savory celebration of Croatia's sun-soaked flavors.

MEALS: B, D

OVERNIGHT: SPLIT

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

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DAY 6 »

## Split

- Ascend Marjan Hill, descend through vibrant Varoš neighborhood
- Explore Diocletian's Palace, uncover ancient and modern Split

Begin your explorations in Split beneath the pine-scented shade of Marjan Hill—the city's beloved “green lungs” and a place of legend. Walk the gentle ascent to a panoramic belvedere, where the whole city unfurls at your feet—terracotta rooftops, church spires, and a sweep of shimmering sea. From this lofty perch, descend winding stairs into the heart of the city through Varoš, the oldest of Split's working neighborhoods. Once the home of fishermen and laborers, today Varoš is abuzz with vibrant energy; its 17th-century stone houses, flower-trimmed shutters, and narrow alleys whisper stories of generations past, while lively cafés and artisan bakeries breathe new life into the old traditions.

From the city's edge, step back seventeen centuries as you cross into the ancient walls of Diocletian's Palace—a palace so grand and robust it has outlasted empires, pirates, and the ravages of time. Marvel at the palace's transformation over the centuries from fortress to imperial residence, from medieval city-within-a-city to the centerpiece of modern Split. With your guide, explore labyrinthine corridors and Roman arches, the Peristyle's dramatic colonnades, the temple-turned-baptistery, and the ornate cathedral built on the bones of an emperor. Tale after tale brings stony facades alive—of Roman ambitions, medieval intrigue, and ordinary lives lived amid extraordinary architecture.

MEALS: B

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

## 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:** 2 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



### [Hotel Ambassador Split](#)

Overlooking Split's picturesque harbor, this stylish contemporary retreat offers indulgent amenities, a rooftop pool, stunning sea and city views, as well as quick access to Old Town and the lively Riva promenade.

**NIGHTS:** 1 nights

# Curated Walks

### CONNECT. ON FOOT. AT EYE LEVEL.

Join us to walk the most cinematic footpaths in a region. With thoughtfully curated walks that are about so much more than just counting miles. Yes, it's likely that your Fitbit or Apple watch will buzz when you hit your step count. But you probably won't notice because your soul will be buzzing from the connections you make with the people and place. Each day, we'll offer you one or two walks. Each walk is generally between an hour or two in duration. And our support vehicles are often nearby and add to your flexibility. Choose one or both to curate the right amount of walking for you each day. It's why Forbes magazine calls our tours their 'Luxury Walking Favorite'.

### CURATE YOUR OWN MILEAGE OPTIONS EACH DAY

	MINIMUM	AVERAGE	MAXIMUM
Day 1	1.5	2.5	4
Day 2	2.5	4.5	8
Day 3	2.5	5	6.5
Day 4	1.5	3.5	6.5
Day 5	1.5	4.5	6.5
Day 6	2.5	3	4

\*No scheduled walks

### ROUTE NOTES

The terrain on this trip includes a mix of paved and cobblestone streets in Dubrovnik, Hvar, Split and other smaller villages, as well as well-maintained coastal, countryside, vineyard, olive, lavender and shepherds' paths of compressed dirt and stone. The footpaths offer a selection of level, rolling and hilly terrain with some elevation gain and loss.

### THE ART OF THE UNPLANNED:

#### CRAFTING UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS

We've carefully crafted each day's walking adventures with our expert local guides. Your daily itinerary serves as a well-thought-out plan, and we empower our tour leaders to adapt to unexpected opportunities or challenges. Whether it's an impromptu local invitation or a weather-related change, we're adept at making adjustments. So, while your experience may closely follow the itinerary, it might also include some variations. In essence, we invite you to "expect the unexpected" – knowing that our promise is to provide you the most genuine and authentic walking tours in the world.



## Arrival & Departure

### → ARRIVAL DETAILS

LOCATION: Lobby of Dubrovnik Hotel  
CITY: Dubrovnik, Croatia  
TIME: 2:00 PM

### → DEPARTURE DETAILS

LOCATION: Lobby of Split Hotel  
CITY: Split, Croatia  
TIME: 1:00 PM

## The Classic Journeys Difference

- ▶ **CURATED WALKS THAT LEAD TO 'ONLY WITH CLASSIC JOURNEYS' EXPERIENCES**
  - Immerse and connect you across cultures as you explore on foot
- ▶ **EXCEPTIONAL LOCAL GUIDES**
  - Bring authentic experiences to life
- ▶ **ENCHANTING ACCOMMODATIONS**
  - Where luxury and local mean you feel at home
- ▶ **EAT LIKE (& WITH) THE LOCALS**
  - Local flavors and time to savor the moments together
- ▶ **SMALL GROUPS, GUARANTEED**
  - Mean deeper, richer experiences while making friends along the way
- ▶ **REGENERATIVE TRAVEL**
  - We take strides to preserve cultures, traditions, and nature

## What's Included

- Accommodations for 5 nights
- All breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 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.
- ▶ **INVISIBLE CHECK-IN**  
When your group arrives, we whisk you and your bags to your room immediately.

## Enhancing Your Journey

We're constantly seeking ways to improve your experience. Count on us to update you with any significant changes before departure. Minor adjustments may be communicated by your guides during the trip to ensure you have the best possible journey.