

# ALH TIMES

THE OFFICIAL ADRIATIC LUXURY HOTELS PERIODICAL



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Quintessentially  
Croatian





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**ADRIATIC**  
LUXURY HOTELS

# ALH News

Welcome to our hotel group. Adriatic Luxury Hotels (ALH) manages the most luxurious hotels and villas in Dubrovnik, Croatia. Currently, our portfolio consists of 12 properties. (More information about our properties and ideas for your next holiday destination can be found on page 50.)

## Hotel Dubrovnik Palace – New VIP Wing!



Complete seclusion, privacy and exclusive luxury are the hallmarks of the VIP wing at Hotel Dubrovnik Palace. The VIP wing of Hotel Dubrovnik Palace offers you complete seclusion, perfect privacy and exclusive luxury and is a favourite spot for visiting celebrities to Dubrovnik. Exceptional Presidential suite along with three highly celebrated, beautifully decorated Ambassador Suites styled with superb art works from Hotel Dubrovnik Palace's VIP wing. This past winter, all three Ambassador Suites and the exclusive Presidential Suite were redesigned.

With meticulously arranged contemporary interiors, and stunning in every minimalist detail, the suites offer a spacious bedroom and a separate living space leading to a private balcony the length of the suite. A panorama of the Adriatic Sea can be enjoyed from both rooms.

## Adriatic Luxury Hotels Rebranding

For those of you already familiar with ALH Times you might have noticed the slight change in design.

The paper was modified in line with our rebranding campaign, which Adriatic Luxury Hotels group completed in December 2019.

The new look comes from the creative direction of brand agency Super Union, which redefined the brand's visual appearance, most evident in our new logo.

To communicate the independent spirit and uniqueness of our hotels, the new ALH logo depicts three leopards that can change their spots. Spots are created with patterns inspired by aspects of Croatia and Dubrovnik, including the oak tree, iris flower and ornate window frames seen throughout Dubrovnik Old Town.



## Advent season at Excelsior

*Holiday programme for the most wonderful time of the year*



For a truly memorable Christmas celebration, look no further... The iconic Hotel Excelsior invites you to celebrate the magical days of Christmas in a luxurious seaside setting. As of last year, Hotel Excelsior has introduced a rich holiday event programme throughout the month of December called "Advent Season at the Excelsior". The program begins the first week of December and continues until January 6.

This exquisite holiday programme features live music every night at the Abakus Piano Bar and heated terrace with the most beautiful view over the Old Town of Dubrovnik. In addition to the daily holiday events, enjoy the spirit of the seasonal music programme. Enjoy a rich selection of traditional Dubrovnik desserts and cocktails at a 30 percent discount during the evening program. The highlight of the program is a New Year's Eve celebration featuring renowned performers, an open-air premium bar, a snack buffet at the Abakus Piano bar and a glass of midnight champagne with a New Year's fireworks overlooking the Old Town.

Enjoy the most wonderful time of the year at the hotel Excelsior! A place where memories are made...





# Dubrovnik

## A MEDITERRANEAN TREASURE

Dubrovnik is more than a city. A perfect combination of past, present and future, of culture, heritage and natural beauty, it offers a unique experience and unforgettable holidays. No wonder it has become the latest must-see Mediterranean destination.

At the southern tip of Croatia's long coastline, Dubrovnik has long been known as the Pearl of the Adriatic, but it is in fact one of the great sights of the Mediterranean, rightly designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In addition to its natural beauty and rich history, Dubrovnik's cultural events and diverse programme of attractions and activities in all seasons, make Dubrovnik the perfect destination for sightseeing, sport, cultural events or simply relaxing in a beautiful Mediterranean setting.

For many centuries Dubrovnik was an independent Republic, a proud cultural centre and an important Mediterranean trading power. Although no longer politically independent, it remains a centre of culture and tourism - a city of museums and galleries, famous for its annual Summer Festival, an international celebration of outstanding music and theatre.

Add to all this the seductive charm of a balmy Mediterranean climate and coastal scenery of incomparable beauty, and you have a powerful magnet for international tourism. The enchantment starts with the panoramic view of the Old Town of Dubrovnik, glimpsed first from the winding road that brings you to town from the airport. Rare are the cities that can boast a comparable location, or such well-preserved medieval walls.

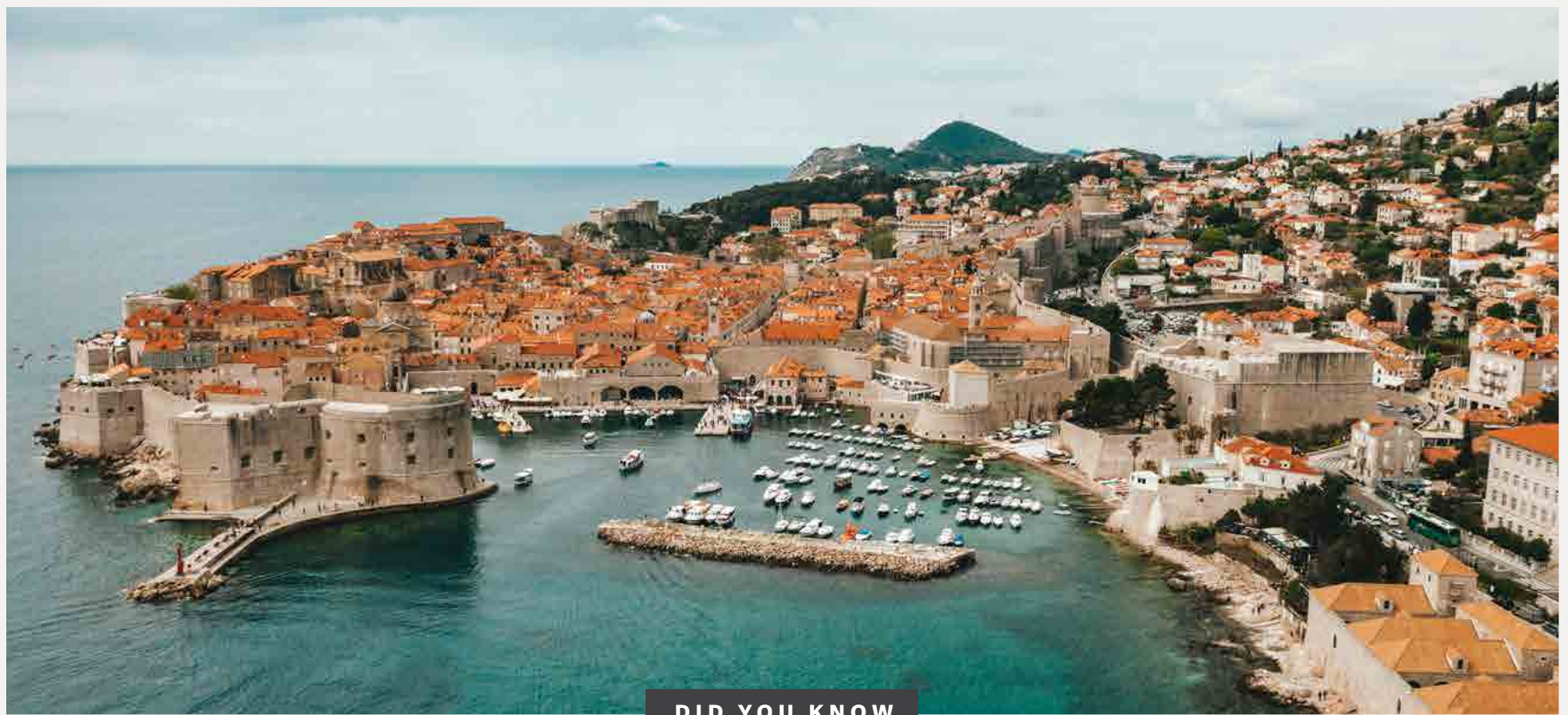
These ancient fortifications were built with good reason - conquerors have always been attracted to Dubrovnik's beauty and wealth, even as recently as the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. But now Dubrovnik's walls teem not with soldiers, but tourists and open-air theatre performers. Half a million people visit the city every year, to experience its fascinating historic attractions.

Dubrovnik is itself a living museum, a treasure trove of Baroque, Renaissance and medieval churches and palaces.

The people of Dubrovnik are immensely proud of their city. They love their beautiful coastline, the sparkling emerald and sapphire hues of the clear sea as it crashes against the rocks of countless bays and coves, and the cliffs of lush subtropical vegetation. And they love the warm southern climate. With more than 250 days of sunshine a year, Dubrovnik sunbathes even in winter, when the orange and lemon trees are filled with fruit. The average temperature is 10°C in winter and around 26°C in summer.

Dubrovnik's long history of renowned visitors starts with Richard the Lionheart, crusader king of England, whom legend claims visited here in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The city's guest book includes royalty, statesmen, athletes, actors, artists, and musicians of every nation. Edward and Mrs. Simpson, Queen Elizabeth II, King Olaf, Margaret Thatcher, Edward Kennedy, Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton, Michael Douglas and Catharine Zeta Jones, Richard Gere, Nick Nolte and Tom Cruise are just some of the great names who have walked the shining marble stones of the Old Town Stradun.

Many celebrities anchor their luxury yachts just outside the Old Town, in front of the island of Lokrum. Roman Abramović, Paul Getty, Bill Gates, Caroline of Monaco, the King of Jordan and the Sultan of Oman are among those who value the privacy of their floating palaces. Oligarchs and humble backpackers alike succumb to the seductive beauty of Dubrovnik.



### DID YOU KNOW

The Dubrovnik Republic was one of the first countries in the world to recognise the newly independent United States of America, in 1776.



The pharmacy in the Franciscan monastery in Dubrovnik has been operating continuously since 1317.



Dubrovnik passed a resolution abolishing slavery and forbidding the transport of slaves on 27 January 1416, making it the first state in Europe to abolish slavery.



The first quarantine in the world was established in Dubrovnik in 1377. Travellers arriving from areas infected with contagious disease were separated and held in the quarantine until they were proven to be healthy.

Richard the Lionheart, King of England, came to Dubrovnik in the autumn of 1192, on his return from the crusades. He took shelter from a storm on the island of Lokrum.



The Dubrovnik maritime insurance law ('Ordo super assecuratoribus', 1568) is the oldest such law in the world.



The orphanage founded at the Convent of St. Claire in 1432 was one of the first in the world.



When the Minčeta Tower was built in 1464, the builders did not have enough stones to complete the building. Everyone arriving from Gruž or Ploče was required to bring with them the heaviest stone they could carry to contribute to the project.

In 1296 the Dubrovnik Republic built a sewage system which is still in use.



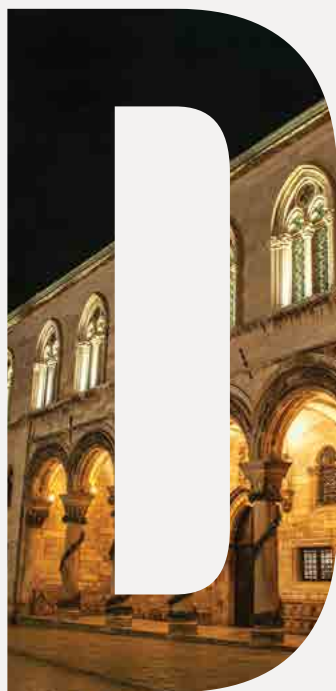
Dubrovnik's navy in the 16<sup>th</sup> century consisted of 40,000 sailors and more than 180 large ships, and was one of the most powerful in the Mediterranean.



Shakespeare's 'Merchant of Venice' and 'The Taming of the Shrew' mention the term 'argosy', meaning 'a boat from Dubrovnik'.



Trsteno arboretum near Dubrovnik was founded in the 15<sup>th</sup> century and is the oldest arboretum in the world. Some of the plane trees are almost 400 years old.



### THE RECTOR'S

### PALACE

The unadorned simplicity of this Gothic-Renaissance palace may seem too modest for the affluence of the Dubrovnik Republic, but restraint was the style of those times, and this splendid building has survived explosions and earthquakes throughout the years. The Rector of Dubrovnik lived in this palace during his one-month rule, separated from his family, and was only allowed to leave the building for official business. The atrium is a harmonious space, with Corinthian columns, galleries, a beautiful Baroque staircase and outstanding acoustics. It is often used for chamber music concerts.



### STRADUN

Although its official name is Placa, everyone knows the main street of the Old Town as Stradun, the favourite promenade of every Dubrovnik resident and visitor. Rebuilt after the earthquake of 1667, it is a broad axis of graceful and harmonious stone buildings, impressive in their simple dignity. After the disaster, the devastated city needed to secure its defence quickly and ensure that life in the city would continue. Thus all the houses along the Stradun were rebuilt according to designs approved by the Senate of the Republic. Buildings along the Stradun were all rebuilt to a uniform height, with nearly identical facades, and similar layout, with shops on the ground floor, as trade was a top priority of the Republic of Dubrovnik.

# The Short List

Our guide to *must-see* Dubrovnik sights



### CITY WALLS

Dubrovnik's most celebrated landmark is its city walls, a 1,940m stone curtain surrounding the old city. Much more than a simple wall, the strongest and most beautiful city fortification complex on the Mediterranean includes towers, bastions, castles and fortresses. The outer dimensions have remained the same since the 14<sup>th</sup> century, but the structures themselves took shape gradually during the golden age of Dubrovnik - from the fall of Constantinople in 1453 to the great earthquake of 1667. Walking the ramparts is a magnificent introductory tour of the city.



### LOVRIJENAC

### FORTRESS

Perched on a cliff 37 m above the sea, this fortress was built in the 16<sup>th</sup> century to protect the city from Venetian attack. On the fortress' walls an historic inscription can still be read: *Non bene pro toto libertas venditur auro*. Freedom cannot be sold for gold. The fortress is often used as a performance stage during the Summer Festival, and makes a magnificent setting for Shakespeare's Hamlet.





### SPONZA PALACE

All trade routes of the Dubrovnik Republic led to this building, one of the loveliest palaces in the city. Constructed in a blend of late Gothic and Renaissance styles according to the designs of Paskoje Miličević, the palace successfully combines many styles and gives us a glimpse of the richness of the lavish palaces that stood in Dubrovnik before the 1667 earthquake. The arcaded courtyard was a lively trading centre and meeting place. One wing of the building housed the state mint, founded in the 14<sup>th</sup> century and operated within the Sponza Palace until the fall of the Republic. Today the palace is the seat of the Dubrovnik archive, which safeguards the city's oldest documents and invaluable historical materials. The square in front of the Sponza Palace is the site of the opening ceremony of the Dubrovnik Summer Festival each year; from the palace's beautiful *piano nobile* terrace, actors dressed in costumes of Dubrovnik's rector and noblemen evoke the spirit and noble traditions of the Dubrovnik Republic.



### ROLAND'S COLUMN

On the main square, between the Sponza Palace and Church of St Blaise, stands a 15<sup>th</sup> century stone column with a sculpture of a warrior. The sculpture represents the knight Roland, who allegedly saved Dubrovnik from the Saracens and was deeply revered during the Dubrovnik Republic. The white flag of the Republic was always flown proudly here.

### MINČETA FORTRESS

Dominating the city, and defying all enemies, this beautiful fortress is a symbol of Dubrovnik's freedom. A smaller rectangular tower on this site dates from the 14<sup>th</sup> century, while the monumental round tower we know today was designed by the Florentine Renaissance architect Michelozzo Michelozzi and the Croatian Juraj Dalmatinac, and was completed in 1464. From the top of Minčeta tower, you can enjoy a stunning view of the town and surrounding areas.



### CHURCH OF SAINT BLAISE

This church is a symbol of the city of Dubrovnik and its protector and patron saint. It stands at the centre of the Old Town. Each year the city celebrates St Blaise's Day on February 3, in festivities attended by the citizens of Dubrovnik and visitors from many cities across Europe.

# Dubrovnik Quintessentially



## 01

### DUBROVNIK CABLE CAR

Ride up to the top of Mount Srđ and enjoy, without a doubt, the best view of the Old Town, the Adriatic Sea, and nearby islands, along with a coffee or cocktail. Up here, even the rainiest day makes inspiring scenery.

#### INSIDE TIP

Wait a bit later in the day, and avoid the morning crowds.



## 02

### ISLAND OF LOKRUM

Just off the coast of Dubrovnik Old Town, the island of Lokrum is a place of stories, mysteries and legends. Once home to Benedictine monks, this island was also a legendary safe haven for Richard the Lionheart on his return from the crusades, a defence point built by Napoleon in 1806, and GOT's city of Quarth. Today, Lokrum remains a sanctuary – a perfect, crowd-free summer getaway for the people of Dubrovnik.

Mother Nature has always reigned supreme here. Virtually untouched for centuries, Lokrum is legally protected as Nature Reserve and a Special Forest Vegetation Reserve,

inhabited only by families of rabbits and peacocks that were introduced to the island in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by the Austrian archduke Maximilian, who also started an exotic botanical garden. The entire coast of Lokrum can be considered a beach, with rocky shores that in some places create perfect swimming spots. A must-see is a lake known as the "Dead Sea" - a small saltwater lake connected to the open sea on the east side of the island. The bravest visitors can also go cliff diving on the island's open seaside or visit the Purple Cave hidden at the far end of the island.

#### GETTING THERE

You can get to Lokrum by a lovely 10-minute boat ride on the "Skala" and "Zrinski" vessels, which depart every half hour in peak season from the Old City port. Tickets can be purchased at the pier, just before boarding. The first boat departs from the Old City port at 9 a.m. and the last one returns from Lokrum at 7 or 8 p.m. (depending on the season).



### BRING HOME

## GIFT LIST

### SOMETHING SPECIAL

## 03

### DUBROVNIK FOR KIDS: ADVENTURES OF MARO AND BARO

Maro and Baro are the main characters of Dubrovnik picture books by local designer Maro Krile. They are based on the two cast-iron figures that guard Dubrovnik's bell tower.

Standing for centuries atop Dubrovnik's main bell tower, and striking the bell with hammers every hour, the figures of Maro and Baro have witnessed the life of the city for centuries. In these picture books, they take you on adventures throughout the history of the Dubrovnik Republic. Pocked sized, and available in nine languages, they are a perfect keepsake for little ones.

#### INSIDE TIP

You can find them in the following stores in the Dubrovnik Old Town: Dubrovnik museums (at the Rector's Palace), Algebra bookshops (second street from the Sponza Palace or next to the Široka street).



## 04

### "GIFT BOXES & VIPs"

Forgot somebody's birthday? Looking for the perfect wedding gift? KAWA offers gift boxes and international shipping.

If you are planning an event in Dubrovnik, their knowledgeable staff can help customize unique Croatian gift boxes based on both your needs and budget. VIP private shopping with champagne and personal shoppers available upon request.

#### INSIDE TIP

They await you at Ploče gate, on the street number Hvarska 2 @Life according to Kawa





Walking the walls and enjoying the beach is always fun, but for a happening holiday packed with the best parties, bars and shops, you need some inside information. Let ALH Times be your guide to an oasis of chic, in a Dubrovnik you've never seen before.



05

PJACA - DUBROVNIK GREEN MARKET

There has been much written about the Mediterranean diet extolling the benefits for the health and longevity of residents of the region. Certainly enjoy local cuisine while you are here. In addition to diverse offerings from local restaurants, take home some of Dubrovnik's famous delicacies such as kotonjata (quince jelly), arancini (candied orange peel), caramelized almonds and dried figs. Taste seasonal cheese, olives, honey and Mediterranean spices or home-made fruit and flower liqueurs and brandies with herbs, all of which can be safely packed for your journey home. If you choose hand-made, cold-pressed soaps made exclusively of natural ingredients such as olive, palm- and almond oil, goat milk, essential oils, lavender or crushed almonds, they will give you the pleasure of natural care long after your vacation is over.

One of the best places to pick up these natural souvenirs is the daily outdoor market on Gundulić square. The oldest market in Dubrovnik, set up in 1892, is located in the prominent, baroque square not far from the Rector's Palace and Cathedral. Enjoy the smell of fresh local produce, listen to locals bargain and, perhaps, get a great bargain yourself, but head there early as the market closes up at noon.



06

DUBROVNIK SUMMER FESTIVAL - THE OPENING NIGHT

Each year, July 10<sup>th</sup> officially marks the beginning of true summer in Dubrovnik. In addition to the extensive festival programme, don't miss the legendary opening fireworks, as they light up the old town harbour.

INSIDE TIP

Hotel Excelsior's Abakus Piano Bar makes a prime location to enjoy the fireworks.



07

ENERGY CLINIC

Energy Clinic, an original Croatian brand celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, carries a range of natural skincare treatments and products designed to help moisturize and protect the skin from the environment leaving behind an aromatic Mediterranean scent.

INSIDE TIP

Experience popular Anti-stress Back & Leg Therapy (45 minutes) in all Adriatic Luxury Hotels spa centres and get a complimentary Face & Scalp massage (15 minutes).



08

COFFEE IN THE OLD TOWN

In Croatia, if somebody invites you for a coffee, you can actually order something else. Coffee culture is so strong, that the word "coffee" just got the meaning of the word "drink".

Going for a coffee is a social thing. You get together, exchange the daily news, problems and gossip. Sometimes by watching busy cafes in the middle of the day, you might get a wrong impression that Croatians don't work. We actually do. In the bar. While we drink coffee. And while chatting away we can stretch our espresso or macchiato for an entire hour. Just to illustrate: one shot of espresso is 0.68 oz, while a Starbucks Tall cup is 12 oz. True story.

If you are curious to observe this phenomenon, or just want some good coffee, explore the side streets of the Old Town. It would be hard to miss.





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DUBROVNIK SUMMER VILLAS

# The *Sorkočević* summer villa in Komolac



Owning a villa outside the crowded city centre still remains a dream of many - and it hasn't changed much since the 14<sup>th</sup> century when patrician families in Renaissance Dubrovnik started to enjoy the benefits of spending summer months away from the city crowds. During the 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, when the Dubrovnik Republic was at its height, the Rijeka Dubrovačka (western entrance to Dubrovnik with fjord-like valley and few settlements located upstream and on the very mouth on next of the River Ombla) offered beautiful country setting beside the river, where the nobility could watch the sun rises and set, in peace and beauty, away from crowded city noise. The area was also ideal for cultivation thanks to its mild climate, fertile soil and abundant water resources.

#### THE HAMPTONS OF RENAISSANCE DUBROVNIK

If you happen to drive or take a tour down the Rijeka dubrovačka, you will be tempted to stop and marvel at one of 50 summer residences, stretching along the five-kilometre coast of the Ombla river. Dubrovnik nobility started building these villas in search of an ideal life, inspiration, and, of course, for more fertile commercial negotiations and political decisions. The number of villas increased enormously in the 16<sup>th</sup> century when it became the standard aspiration of noble families – and the wealthier non-noble families – to have a place outside the city.

Translations of the Croatian terms *ljetnikovac* (summer house) or *ladanjska kuća* (country house) don't quite convey how important these residences were to the life of the city. Indeed, this villa culture is just as important to the city's heritage as its medieval walls or its monastery cloisters. These residences were used all year round, and very often became the centre of a family's social life rather than a place of quiet retreat. They were frequently located near the family's fruit orchards, vineyards and olive groves, so played an economic role as well.





reflected the trends that prevailed in Renaissance Italy. There were certain conventions governing the shape of these villas. They usually took an L-shaped form, with the main building comprising a central hall surrounded by four rooms, and an annexe leading down to the waterfront boathouse. Within the villa's walls, there was always a garden divided into box-hedge quadrants, with pergolas for shaded strolling, and possibly a fishpond connected by a small channel to the seafront outside.

Dubrovnik's Renaissance villas are still an important feature of the landscape, although they are often hidden behind high walls and palm trees or edged into anonymity by neighbouring modern buildings. Given the many violent upheavals in Dubrovnik's history (notably the great earthquake of 1667, the destruction wrought by the Franco-Russian War of 1807, and the recent Croatian War of Independence 1991 - 1995), it's perhaps surprising that so many of the city's Renaissance villas have survived. Today, some of these villas remain in private hands, some are owned by institutions, and a substantial number are abandoned and in dilapidated state, waiting to be restored to their original conditions. Only a few are accessible to the public, but nonetheless they can still tell the secrets of a time long gone.

The 16<sup>th</sup>-century explosion of second homes led to changes in lifestyle and culture. It was at these villas that people would meet to discuss the latest developments in business affairs or the arts or attend parties at which music or plays would be performed. The villas thus became important centres of artistic and literary life. The large and specially laid out gardens were dedicated to the leisure pursuits of noble families and their friends. The most knowledgeable individuals of that time - philosophers, poets, painters, artists, scientists, and politicians - gathered here to share and discuss their ideas, interests, and discoveries. The villas themselves were frequently decorated with artworks which enhanced their cultural significance. Indeed, it wouldn't be unfair to say that Dubrovnik's cultural and scientific life took place in the villas outside the walls rather than inside the city itself.

Although there is plenty of fine architecture within the city walls, especially when it comes to the former city-states' governmental buildings (e.g. Sponza Palace, Rector's Palace), these family homes tend to be hidden behind plain stone facades - private grandeur was rarely put on public display. Outward extravagance was considered bad form among Dubrovnik nobles, though these palaces offered both the luxury of space and access to the outdoors, therefore these second homes were rarely showy or palatial. They were usually located along the waterfront, protected by high stone walls, while their construction



#### THE SUMMER VILLA OF LUKA SORKOČEVIĆ IN KOMOLAC

One of the most impressive villas, is the Sorkočević Villa in Komolac, situated in the ACI Marina at the northern end of Ombla river near Dubrovnik. It is the most complex example of Dubrovnik country architecture, built in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century (1521), in the late Gothic-Renaissance style, later Baroque. Its owner, Luka Sorkočević, was a famous composer and a member of one of the most powerful patrician families in Dubrovnik.

The Sorkočević family built a quite number of summer residences during those times; however, the largest and most impressive monumental villa complex of the 200 that existed at the time is this one.

Although today the interior of the villa is closed to the public due to its fairly dilapidated state, we can say that in those times, this mansion was undoubtedly one of the most beautiful villas in Dubrovnik area and still has the potential, after needed renovation, to proudly carry that title once again.



### SUMMER HOUSE ON THE WATER

The physical connection of the Sorkočević's summer house with the water gives it typical characteristic of the "summer house on the water".

During the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, the Sorkočević family remodelled the villa and added a large terrace along the western loggia, from which there is a beautiful view of the upper part of the Dubrovnik River. The terrace ends with a stone staircase and a stone fence which is decorated, on each side, with carved stone vases with fruit and flowers, so the villa was often called Skala (meaning staircase).

### ARCHITECTURE

The villa today comprises THREE FLOORS, two salons (one of which is a loggia with impressive Renaissance murals), an octagonal steam bath and wellness area, terraces and family chapel, the square tower above the southeast terrace, the wall fountain with the image of Triton and a wide Baroque staircase which descends directly into the sea.



SKETCH OF SPA AND WELLNESS AREA WITHIN THE VILLA

Interestingly, in the original times, this wide staircase led directly into the sea.

So, the staircase served as a doorstep of Sorkočević's summer house, and an everlasting invitation to the visitor, but also as a direct connection to the environment, the sea and nature.

The entire complex is surrounded by a spacious imposing garden, two ponds, a promenade and pergola system. The mansion was built in the Renaissance-mannerism style and was later complemented by some Baroque elements.

THE GROUND FLOOR of the mansion has a smaller room with barrel ceilings, leading upstairs, with a fine, stone-carved staircase balustrade, to rooms of greater heights and dimensions, each upgraded with a balcony.

This prolonged wing, which was subsequently added in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, ends on the west side with a loggia, or as it is called the "gallery". Being 20 meters long, this imposing gallery contains valuable frescoes dating from the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century which is a rare and unsurpassed example of the wall painting of the times of the Dubrovnik Republic and of the entire eastern Adriatic coast. In each of its four spacious openings, the frescos show the four seasons throughout the year, but they also reveal the layout of the villa. These four seasons were actually the directions in which the visitors of the house moved within the villa throughout the year. Today, these mythological - Arcadian motifs, have largely disappeared or faded to the extent of being unrecognizable either because of the time passed by or because of the negligence of its tenants.

At the end of the eastern terrace, the villa had a high DEFENSIVE TOWER, but it was mostly intended for living.

In the middle of this terrace is a beautifully carved stone crown of the well from which the water would flow through the Triton wall fountain, one of the most beautiful art pieces that can be found in the Dubrovnik summer houses.

The complex is, like all Dubrovnik summer residences, surrounded by a large stone wall with only occasional toothed crown-like tops, which served not so much for the safety but rather for the privacy of the residence. Outside the wall on the north side of the complex, large two ponds have been built, bordered by a walled shore and connected by a narrow channel with the sea through which fish were allowed to enter and exit.

### ANTIQUÉ SPA AND WELLNESS AREA

From the large imposing hall on the north that leads into the foyer, there was an entrance to the octagonally shaped BATHROOM that included space for washing, dressing, and resting. The bathroom also had a sauna with two niches with stone seats and a swimming pool located opposite the entrance. The floor was heated from the ground floor and was tiled with stone slabs. This area was used by more people at the same time because these gatherings were also considered as one form of socializing.

The ritual of bathing was to first bathe in warm, then luke-warm water, and then by a grand staircase one would step into the cold water of the Dubrovnik River. Only the richest families in Dubrovnik could afford this, so besides the one in the bishop palace, this antique wellness was the only of that kind that could be found in the Dubrovnik area in those times.

### GARDEN BEAUTY

Undoubtedly, the most impressive part of the Sorkočević villa is its beautiful spacious front garden. Extending by the entire length of the mansion, the garden is considered to be the largest Renaissance garden in the Dubrovnik area. It once housed over 200 pillars with capitals supporting pergolas which made walking in the garden pleasant, even on hot summer days. Partly restored between 1981-1989, this unique horticultural complex had three garden areas planted with myrtle, rosemary, lavender, spicy oranges and perennial greenery, while the fourth garden area was paved for hospitality purposes. In addition to pointing to the power and prestige of the owner, the garden also served as a place for reflection, contemplation and relaxation and was a central place of literary meetings, music venues and masked balls.

The villa also had a back garden with a family chapel which were, unfortunately, destroyed during the construction of the Adriatic road in 1963.

Over the centuries, the Sorkočević villa changed its owners and purpose, which eventually disrupted and devastated its original look.



GARDEN

Rich in plotted orthogonal walkways paved with bricks and main paths ranging more than three metres wide, the garden area was divided by these walking paths into four quadrilaterals encircled by colonnades and green pergola canopies.

The last owner from the Sorkočević family was Antun Sorkočević who was also the last member of the Dubrovnik Republic. In 1810, he sold this villa and all the land around it. He died in 1840 in Paris.

Additional damage in the Great Earthquake in 1979 and direct missile strikes in the Homeland War only sealed the condition of the villa.

Today Sorkočević villa recalls that old, almost forgotten time. So, if you ever find yourself wandering along the coast of Rijeka Dubrovačka bay, Ombla river and ACI marina Dubrovnik, make sure to stop by to see this exquisite Renaissance castle.

Take a step back into Sorkočević's time, walking through its beautiful gardens while listening to the birds and the whisper of the light summer breeze.



DISCOVER THE  
DISTINCTIVE  
TASTE



UNMISTAKABLY

*Tanqueray*

DRINK RESPONSIBLY



## BEST DUBROVNIK INSTAMOMENTS

120  375

# Porta

As you begin to explore the walls, squares, monuments and churches of the Old Town for a good photo op, it is virtually impossible not to notice the array of different doors and doorways;

opened or closed, creaky, ornate or quirky, with brass or metal lion's heads, nautical themed knockers, and the occasional demonic or angelic equivalent... Or the abandoned ones, just sitting there, slowly deteriorating, haunting your imagination as you walk by.



And it is almost impossible not to pause for a second, to just stare at them or to peek inside and steal a glance of what lies beyond them. Our innate curiosity gets the better of us.

It's because beyond each door is an array of possibilities and realities. Each building, house and home has its own story, its own character and personality, its own history and tradition, faith and culture, its own energy; an entrance to a whole new micro-world ...

And this is what entices many of us to take our cameras out.



PORTA *cro.* old colloquial word for entryways and doorways in Dubrovnik



And while we don't want to spoil the thrill of your exploration, here are some great spots that all true door-image collectors should have in their portfolios:

— The newly refurbished DOORS OF SPONZA PALACE, a 16<sup>th</sup> century palace that served a variety of public functions, including as a customs office and bonded warehouse, armoury, treasury, bank and school. Dating as far as the palace itself, the doors are inscribed with the word DOGANA (custom-house) and bears the coloured coat of arms of the Dubrovnik Republic.



— The ornate green entrance DOORS OF THE RECTOR'S PALACE, the former administrative centre of the Dubrovnik Republic. When you get there, step inside to see the inner doorway on the upper level leading to the hall of the Major Council, famous for its Latin inscription "OBLITI PRIVATORUM PUBLICA CURATA." This phrase reminds civic leaders that the common good should be given priority over private matters, epitomising the political ideals of the Dubrovnik Republic.



— The quirky "hobbit-sized" DOORS CARVED INTO THE CLIFF IN THE PILE (WEST) HARBOUR, which, somehow end up in everyone's photos.

#GoT Fans, do you recognise these? It is the place where the Gold Cloaks went on a killing spree for King Joffrey in season 2, carrying out the massacre of all of Robert Baratheon's bastard children.



— The secret "BUŽA" DOORS. Buža literally means "a hole" in Dubrovnik's famous walls. Buža I and Buža II take you to cliff bars where the atmosphere is casual, the drink selection limited but tasty, and the views at sunset utterly stupendous.



— "VRATA NA KOLJENO" literally, "doors on the knee" Through the Old Town, but primarily on the main street Stradun, you will notice these "knee doors", a combination of doors and windows, in a single frame spanned by a semi-circular stone arch. These were all shop fronts allowing the shopkeepers to close the door, then open the window to sell goods over the counter.



# Life

INTRODUCING WONDERFUL  
THINGS MADE BY CROATIANS

# According to Kawa

Dubrovnik is well known for its monumental ramparts, rich history, natural beauty, and recent forays into Hollywood & Bollywood - but a local boutique is helping put **Croatian Design** on the map, and in the process, transforming the neighbourhood just north of Lazareti.



BIG MAMMA BY MUCCA

For centuries, merchants and visitors from all over the world congregated in the medieval quarantine of Lazareti before being allowed to enter the Republic through its eastern gate. Nowadays, the neighbourhood north of Lazareti is home to a selection of great Mediterranean eateries, world-class Japanese fusion cuisine, a traditional stone masonry, local gin bar, Asian street food, Cogito Coffee, and Life According to KAWA.

A shop set in a converted garage that sheltered locals during the war isn't the type of place you'd expect to find our favourite shop in Dubrovnik. But with the help of a talented young architect from Sarajevo (Armin Mesic, fo4a.ba), the space was reimaged by Jonathan and Sanja Kawaguchi into a modern and airy boutique showcasing the very best from local designers and artisans.

## WHAT TO BUY

Beautiful homeware, small-batch design, traditional treats, ceramics, craft beer, wine, hand-roasted coffee, local delicacies, souvenirs, cosmetics, books, handbags, shoes, sunglasses, jewellery, clothing, and artisanal ice cream.



BOW TIE BY ISOLA

## — ACCESSORIES —

From must-have handbags hand-stitched from top quality Italian leather to wooden phone cases, sunglasses, backpacks, bowties, suspenders, and wallets, you'll have plenty of opportunity to pick up accessories to complement your wardrobe. But what to bring home you ask? We'll make it easy. Leather wallets or bags by *GoRetro* ([www.goretro-store.com](http://www.goretro-store.com)). Or be like Beyonce, sunglasses by *Sheriff&Cherry*.

## — CLOTHING —

When it comes to fashion, you'll find unique one-off pieces, and a rotating selection of tunics, dresses & tops from both indie and established Croatian designers. Get casually nostalgic with beachwear for both men and women by *Sheriff&Cherry* ([www.sheriffandcherry.com](http://www.sheriffandcherry.com)). Or invoke smiles of strangers with *Happy Cevapi* or *Battle of Dubrovnik GoT vs. Star Wars* limited edition cotton t-shirts.



TREGERI BY GORETRO

## — KITCHEN —

With an abundance of fresh local ingredients and mixed cultural influences through the ages, it's no surprise that Dubrovnik has a rich culinary history. What might surprise you is the variety of great gifts for you and your favourite foodie friends. From gorgeous recipe books created by local chefs, hand-made olive wood utensils & serving boards, to a fine selection of award winning Croatian olive oils, world famous Istrian truffles, salts, and other goodies.



TRIANGLE BOTTLE OPENER BY VAU

## — INTERIOR AND HOUSE —

If you can tear your eyes away from the locally designed furniture ([www.artisan.hr](http://www.artisan.hr)), you'll find a wonderful mix of unique and original items that are certain to look great in your home. We recommend internationally awarded *VAU* everyday functional objects for home and office ([www.vauproducts.com](http://www.vauproducts.com)); wood bowls made from thousands year old reclaimed oak; espresso cups by *Marina Marinski*; *pinch coffee mugs* by *Tea Radic*; quirky canned illustrated dioramas by Croatian actor *Vladimir Tintor*.



BOATLIFE BY SHERIFF&amp;CHERRY

## — COSMETICS —

Organic handmade soaps, skincare, moisturizers, & perfume. This is your chance to take advantage of some incredibly high-quality cosmetics. Locally sourced and without the mark-up of international brands, you might end up back at home wishing you bought more.





— WINE & CRAFT —

It's hard to find good Croatian wine outside of Croatia so take advantage of being *local* while you can. Sommelier/Star Wars die-hard, Bozidar Jukic (bespoke foodie & wine tours [www.insiderholidays.eu](http://www.insiderholidays.eu)) selected his favourite wines for KAWA. Look for locally produced wines by *Crvik-Pomet* (plavac mali) or *Fiora* (Syrah rose chilled for instant balcony gratification).

Craft lovers rejoice! You'll find a large selection of Croatian craft beer and a few dry ciders that can be imbibed whilst shopping (discounts for six-packs).



DUBROVNIK REPUBLIC GIN MADE WITH 100% DALMATIAN BOTANICALS



NECKLACE BY IVA STOJKOVIC

— JEWELRY —

The shop is well stocked with distinctive pieces and styles to suit a wide range of tastes. From playful and fun jewelry to clean modern necklaces. Fall in love with the whimsical designs created by Dubrovnik biologist *Vicious Delicious*, local silver filigree by *Antolovic*, or contemporary pieces by *Iva Stojkovic*.



— GIFT BOXES & VIPS —

The shop offers lovely gift boxes and packaging. If you are planning an event in Dubrovnik, their knowledgeable staff can help customize 100% unique Croatian gift boxes based on both your needs and budget. VIP private shopping with champagne and personal shoppers available upon request.

— COFFEE —

You either love the local coffee scene or you miss your local coffee house. Regardless, you can find locally roasted freshly ground single origin and select blends at KAWA. Cold brew coffee, brewing kits, and filters available.

— FOOD —

Croatia is well known for its olive oils, salt, and truffles but it'd be a shame to miss out on the other wonderful artisanal products available at KAWA. Our favourites include candied orange peels, hot sauces, local honey, truffle sea salt, vegan & gluten free energy bars, natural ice cream, and of course, hand-made chocolate! For a special treat, book a gourmet picnic with Alex ([www.piknikdubrovnik.com](http://www.piknikdubrovnik.com)) - make sure to reserve at least a day in advance!

VISIT

KAWA is a wonderfully curated shop with a relaxed low-key atmosphere, jaw-dropping views, and very helpful and friendly staff. Don't miss out. Be sure to visit. If for nothing else, you'll experience more of what Croatia has to offer.

**WORKING HOURS**  
 9:00 – 00:00 (Season) | 10:00 – 18:00 (Offseason)  
 PAYMENT: cash, credit card  
 T: +385 20 670 730 | E: [info@kawa.life](mailto:info@kawa.life)  
[www.facebook.com/KAWA.LIFE8](http://www.facebook.com/KAWA.LIFE8)  
[www.instagram.com/kawa.dubrovnik](http://www.instagram.com/kawa.dubrovnik)

A GREAT MUSICAL MIND OF THE 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

Luka Sorkočević was the composer of the first Croatian symphony and is today considered to be among the best European pre-Classical composers. The style of his compositions can be described as being between Baroque and Classical.



# Luka Sorkočević

Dubrovnik was always a place where many enthusiastic artists, poets, sculptors as well as musicians and composers gathered their inspiration to create timeless pieces of art, literary works and everlasting melodies. In this atmosphere music in old Dubrovnik was undoubtedly very well nurtured.

Every young nobleman, along with an education of general culture, also received a musical education. The cathedral was the centre of every musical activity where many events and ceremonies were followed by music and singing. The Dubrovnik Senate also supported music in the city, and brought well-known educators from Italy, thus developing two musical groups in the 18<sup>th</sup> century: The famous Rector's Orchestra and a smaller ensemble called "the Banda del Principe".

The "Rector's Orchestra" consisted of strings who performed concerts during the holiday season and conducted more complicated compositions, while the "Banda del Principe" was a brass ensemble that performed marches and participated in escorting the Rector.

A taste for chamber music developed in many homes of Dubrovnik noble families. On such occasions, the young musician Luka Sorkočević appeared.

January 13, 1734 – September 11, 1789





Luka (also known as Luca Sorgo) was born on January 13, 1734, as a descendant of the respected Sorkočević family, one of the most powerful patrician families in Dubrovnik. His family hosted many musical and literary events at their summer villa in Rijeka Dubrovačka (see pg. 12 to read more about the villa).

Historical records indicate that the Sorkočević family settled in Dubrovnik as early as the 13<sup>th</sup> century. They were grain traders and provided the Republic with a great deal of help when a terrible fire broke out in 1296 and destroyed much of the City. The Republic received this gesture with gratitude and named Sorkočević as its prominent citizens. Over time, many members of the Sorkočević family played important roles in the life of the city. Until the collapse of the Republic, they participated in both state and economic life of Dubrovnik, as well as in culture and art, from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, that is, until the fall of the Dubrovnik Republic in 1806.

**FACT**

The Dubrovnik art & music school is named after Luka Sorkočević

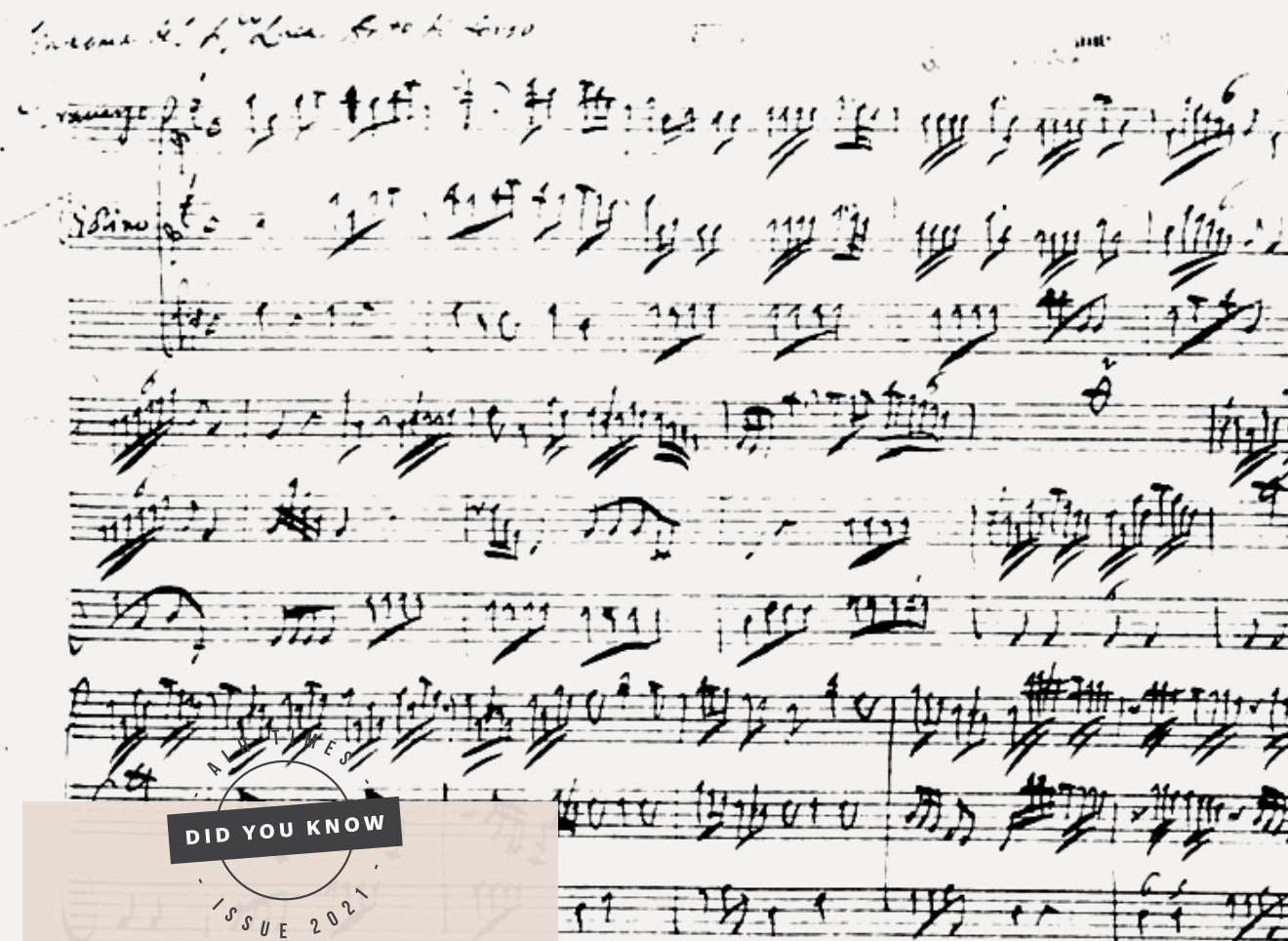
**LUKA SORKOČEVIĆ**

Luka received an extensive education. Born to an aristocratic family, Sorkočević studied music along with his two sisters and brother Miho. He started his music education at the Dubrovnik Jesuit College and the music teacher who provided him with his very first instruction in music composition was the Italian composer Giuseppe Valenti. Valenti was the maestro di cappella of the Dubrovnik Cathedral in the 1750s who provided music instruction for the children of local aristocratic families.

At the age of 18 (in 1752), Luka was already elected member of the Great Council where he was required to perform numerous duties for the Republic, which limited the time he could devote to his true passion - composing and music. He continued his education in Rome (1756–1763) where he studied musical composition under the opera composer Rinaldo di Capua. After returning to Dubrovnik, he was again elected into public service, which did not leave him enough time for music. Later at the age of 30, Sorkočević married a woman from a noble Dubrovnik family and continued to contribute to many areas of Dubrovnik politics and society.

As a diplomat of the Dubrovnik Republic, he negotiated with the French in 1776 and in 1781 during his relatively brief visit to the new Emperor Joseph II in Vienna. As the ambassador to the imperial court, he met several most prominent composers of his time, including the opera reformer Ch. W. Gluck whose works he praised, J. Haydn who gave him a copy of his six-string quartets, and the famous poet Pietro Metastasio who gave him valuable experience for his later life and work.

With serious health problems of kidney disease and frequent depression, at the age of 55, he committed suicide by throwing himself out of the third floor window of his palace in Dubrovnik (today's Bishop's palace) on September 11, 1789. Despite his suicide, he was buried in the Franciscan church of Friars Minor with all the usual aristocratic honours.



The Sorkočević musical legacy, along with other family possessions, is preserved in the archives of the Franciscan monastery in Dubrovnik and represent a valuable record of the development of Croatian music in those times.

**MUSICAL LEGACY**

Sorkočević's greatest musical legacy is the first Croatian symphony. He was an amateur in music but was extremely talented considering the fact that he had an incomplete musical education. The value of his compositions has been recognized not only by Croatian music scholars but also, more recently, by international performers.

Although Sorkočević did not assign dates to his musical compositions, it is assumed that most of his work was done between 1750 and 1770. During this 20-year period, his instrumental compositions are generally entitled Overture or Symphony.

Some of his works are nameless, some have been lost, but his most interesting and irreplaceable works are THE SEVEN SYMPHONIES in three movements which are completely finished (with the eighth one in two movements). All are intended for the same orchestra – string, oboe and tenor horn. Along with that are two overtures, Sonatas for violin and piano, as well as several vocal compositions for soprano and orchestra; Eroica Staccato; Trio for Flute, Violin and Piano; Duo 'La vertu perdue' for violin, cello with harpsichord; and two vocal compositions.

These instrumental works belong to the transitional period between baroque and classicism so we can clearly say that Sorkočević's music contains traces of both styles.



Sorkočević's works are treasured even today in Dubrovnik. If you are interested to hear his symphonies, Sorkočević classics are a regular feature in the programmes of the Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra and the Sorkočević Quartet held in Rectors' Palace during the Dubrovnik Summer Festival.



# A guide to Croatian culture, etiquette and norms

When visiting Croatia, many people easily get used to the laid-back Croatian lifestyle, but have you ever wondered about some of the typical social customs in Croatia when it comes to cultural things like greetings, coffee time, birthdays, dinner invitations or fashion?

The list is quite long, but for a start, we will outline here just the most common norms of behaviour and rules to follow when hanging out almost everywhere in Croatia including Dubrovnik.



## GREETINGS

The way we greet each other in Croatia depends on our closeness to the other person, as well as gender. When meeting someone for the first time or when meeting an acquaintance, people usually shake hands. It is, however, less common among teenagers.

1. A strong handshake and look in the eyes is almost always common among men when they greet each other, while next time, or the same day, a nod is enough. Sometimes they hug or add a cheek kiss if it's a close family member or friend, whereas women greet female friends with a kiss on each cheek, and very often a hug.
2. If a man and woman are friends, they will greet each other with a simultaneous handshake and a kiss on each cheek.

### TIP

Be careful with kisses, as the numbers are especially important. Two is the magic number (one kiss per cheek – first left and then right). Don't panic - just follow the body language of the person you are greeting, and you cannot be wrong.



## PUNCTUALITY

Croatians particularly in the southern part of the country, have rather a relaxed attitude towards life and time. In business, we always strive to be on time, but we do business in a more relaxed way than many other European nations. The reason, as we mentioned in our last year's edition, is that we like to live at a slow pace and everything we do is "pomalo" (meaning slowly/slow down).

### TIP

Don't be surprised or angry if someone is slightly late to meet you. It's not intentional; it is just our way of life here.





## COFFEE TIME

In Croatia, drinking coffee is one of the most important rituals and can be connected to a social activity.

This is really a story in itself, but we will point out just a few important "coffee rules" to bear in mind when meeting someone for a coffee. People in Croatia have a custom to sit for hours, not being stressed out that they need to rush or be somewhere else, so if you are meeting someone for a coffee be sure to carve out a minimum an hour or two. Enjoy this ritual as it is one of the simplest but most memorable experiences you'll have in Dubrovnik.

### TIP

The unwritten rule is usually whoever does the inviting for a coffee, pays the bill. However, if you meet a friend on the road and you agree to go for a coffee, there will typically be a "receipt fight" over who gets to pay the bill. Don't worry, this is very 'normal' behaviour since people in Dubrovnik like to treat their friends when they meet for a coffee or a drink.



## BIRTHDAYS

Croatians love to party, so the custom here is that the birthday boy or girl organises a party and pays for dinner or drinks. If you are attending a birthday celebration as an invited guest, be sure to bring a small gift. For further instructions about gift-giving read below...

## GIFT-GIVING

Gift-giving is important in Croatia. If you are invited to a casual party or dinner, your present can be informal too. Also, make sure not to forget something for the host/hostess as well. Maybe just a token of appreciation, nothing lavish, but rather a bottle of wine, a box of cookies or chocolate, a package of coffee, or flowers...you get the idea.

If you are going to a home that has small children, bringing a little gift for them is also typical (this can be something small like some candy or a simple toy). Kids love when guests come over because they know they will usually get a small treat :)

### TIP

Gifts are opened when received unless otherwise specified. When giving flowers, make sure there is an odd number of stems. Basically, the main rule is that wherever you are going (whether to someone's home, a party of any kind, a wedding...) make sure you have something to bring as a gift.



## DINNER

Customs at home are very much centred around food. When invited over to a casual dinner party, guests are not expected to bring any food, but small gifts. Table manners are relatively casual as people like to eat and chat at mealtimes. Don't put too much on your plate the first time around, because it's customary to take seconds. When you toast your drinks, don't forget to look everyone in the eyes and just say „Živjeli“ [Zhee-ve-lee] (Cheers!) - it works every time. As for the rest - when in doubt, just watch others and copy what they do.





## TOP 10 BY MARIA STORE

## Dream-haves



## DRESS AND FASHION

## ETIQUETTE

Croatians are known as dedicated followers of fashion and care about their appearance, so you will rarely see someone looking sloppy even if they are just going to buy something at the grocery store or going out for a beach walk. Having a pretty sophisticated sense of style, men often wear branded sport clothes for day and classy dress shirts when out at night. Women, on the other hand, are often fully dressed (hair, makeup, clothes, jewellery) and no matter which time of day it is, they will always look like they are on a fashion catwalk.

## TIPS

- Never, ever wear socks with sandals
- Never wear too much perfume as it will look like you did not shower
- if you decide to go for a walk in the Old Town (especially after the beach) be aware of the formal dress code law: You can't walk around in your bathing suit. So cover up a bit. For men, this means wear a shirt. – Otherwise, you will pay a fine.
- Never leave home without sunglasses - Rain, hail, or sun, it's not a secret that sunglasses are a must-have fashion accessory. Shhhh... it is common to have two pairs, cheap ones for the beach and expensive and more stylish ones for going out or walking in the city.

## BALENCIAGA

Iconic 'City' bag by Balenciaga looks absolutely adorable in this summer's hit bubble gum pink color with croco print that gives it an edgy vibe.



## BOTTEGA VENETA

With a mesh design and a square toe, these fiery red stretch pumps from Bottega Veneta are the perfect addition to your unique wardrobe.



## JOHANNA ORTIZ

These oversize woven raffia earrings by Johanna Ortiz are a true statement piece that works great with a sexy swimsuit as well as with your favourite summer dress.



## LINDA FARROW LUXE

Channel your inner movie star persona with these XL sunglasses by cult London label Linda Farrow Luxe and accessorize it with a decorative chain for the ultimate diva look.



## SAINT LAURENT

Saint Laurent's one-shoulder floral dress is ready to have you blossom with confidence in its bright blue design and foldover draped neckline.



## BOTTEGA VENETA

This double strap leather belt with sculptural metal detail by Bottega Veneta is a true example of their arty minimalist style everyone adores.



## BOTTEGA VENETA

Bottega Veneta's Padded Cassette cross-body bag is a no brainer - it's spacious enough for the essentials, not to mention it's suitable for daytime and evening events alike.



## JOHANNA ORTIZ

Release your adventurous spirit with this amazing exotic floral strapless dress by Colombian star designer Johanna Ortiz.



## LOEWE

From bermuda shorts and flouncy dresses to your favourite pair of jeans these retro sneakers by Jonathan Anderson for Loewe look work great with every summer look.



## VALENTINO

Doesn't matter if you prefer spending your days on a fancy yacht, at the private beach club or by the pool at a luxury hotel - this colorful bikini by Valentino is a perfect choice for swimming and lounging with style.







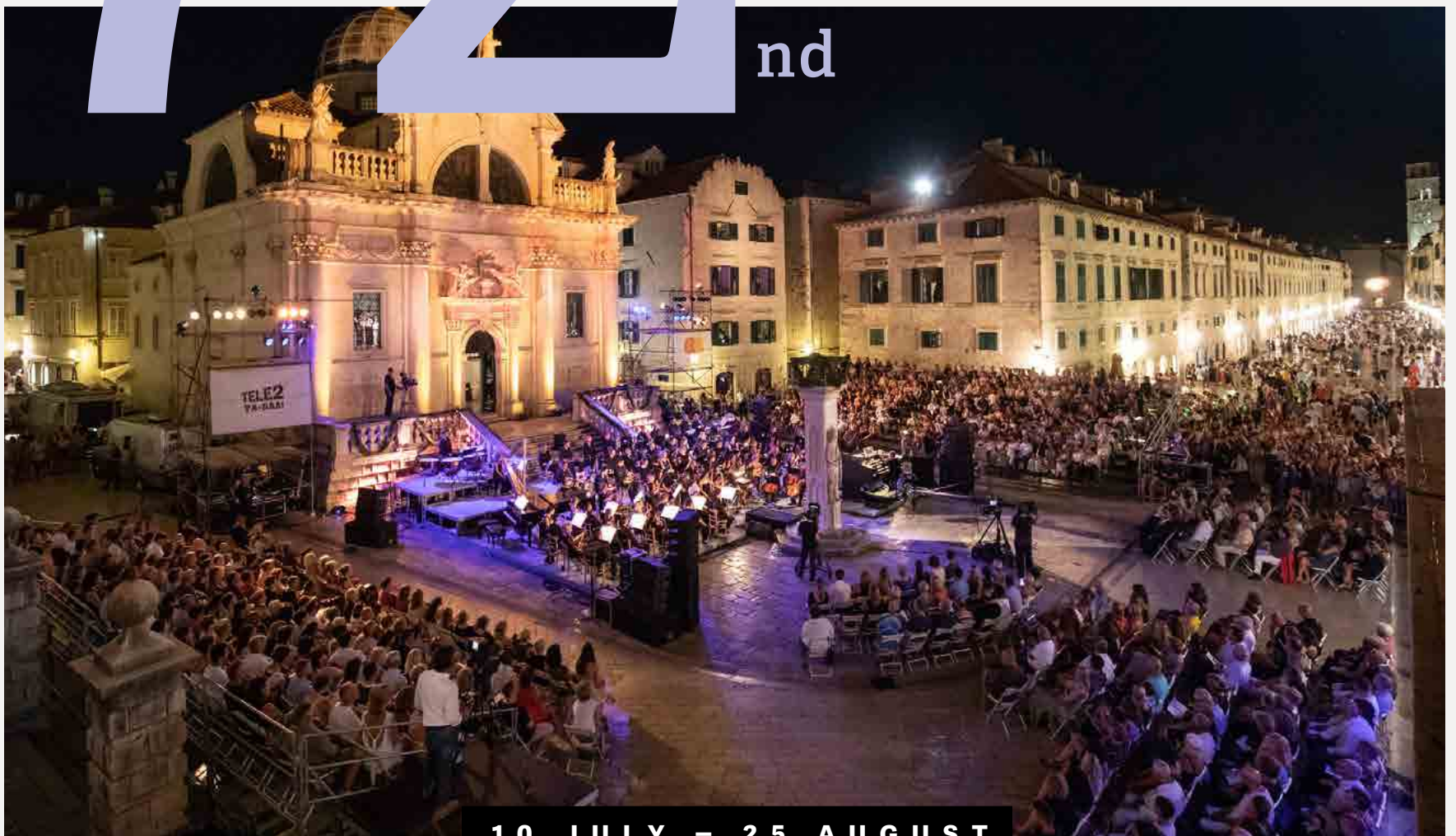
*Maria*

CELINE, BALENCIAGA, LOEWE, GUCCI, VALENTINO, SAINT LAURENT, BOTTEGA VENETA, AZZEDINE ALAÏA, CHLOË, STELLA MCCARTNEY, GIVENCHY, CECILIE BAHNSEN, KHAITE, VITA KIN, ALANUI, MONCLER, JOHANNA ORTIZ, FALIERO SARTI, MAISON MICHEL, BORSALINO, IVI JEWELRY, ASHERALI KNOPFER, DELFINA DELETTREZ, LAUREN RUBINSKI, GIANVITO ROSSI, ALEVI, LINDA FARROW LUXE

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# 72<sup>nd</sup> Dubrovnik Summer Festival



10 JULY – 25 AUGUST

One of the oldest and most prestigious European festivals, member of the European Festivals Association since 1956, the Dubrovnik Summer Festival will take place from 10 July to 25 August 2021 on a number of open-air venues and site-specific locations of the Old City of Dubrovnik and during those 47 days will present rich and diverse theatre, music, dance and folklore programme.

The core of the 72<sup>nd</sup> Dubrovnik Summer Festival theatre programme, will consist of the productions realized within the EU project Port of Dreamers; ***Beside Oneself***, a project by Nataša Rajković and Ivan Penović staged by the **Festival Drama Ensemble**, the play ***Celebration*** after Ivor Martinić's text, directed by Jan Krmelj and produced by the **Slovene National Theatre Maribor**, and ***Under the Same Roof*** directed by Ivana Janošev and co-produced by **Kulturanova and Újvidéki Színház, Hungarian minority theatre** from Novi Sad, Serbia

The second drama premiere, that portrays Dubrovnik as a place where burdened history and burlesque transition clash, will be the ***Lion House***. It is based on Ivan Salečić's debut novel in which the author intertwines two stories about Dubrovnik's present and past, with emphasis on the Gundulić family history. The director of the play is the renowned Croatian director Aida Bukvić and this will be her directing debut at the Dubrovnik Summer Festival. Croatia's rich folklore dance and music heritage will be presented by the **Lindo Folklore Ensemble**, while art exhibition programme at the Sponza Palace Atrium also continues this year.





Music programme will include performances by **Petrit Çeku**, **Lovre Marušić** and **Goran Filipec**, who will present their mastery as soloists with the **Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra**, in chamber performances or recitals. City spaces will be enlivened by the dynamically durable and visually attractive programmes such as **Percussion Collective**, a percussion treat led by the excellent **Ivana Kuljerić Bilić**. The programme **Dubrovnik on a Rock of Music** will once again gather Dubrovnik's musicians, who will present a rare and unexpected programme from the belle époque.



#### MORE INFO

[www.dubrovnik-festival.hr](http://www.dubrovnik-festival.hr)

FACEBOOK: [dubrovnik.festival](https://www.facebook.com/dubrovnik.festival) | MAIL: [info@dubrovnik-festival.hr](mailto:info@dubrovnik-festival.hr)



**Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra**  
**Marc Tardue, chief conductor**



## 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

April - May

Dubrovnik Musical Spring

June

ORLANDO FURIOSO baroque music cycle

June - July

14<sup>th</sup> International Opera Arias Festival 'TINO PATTIERA'

August - September

International Late Summer Music Festival Dubrovnik

October

Stradun Classic

October

Autumn Music Variety

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# Blaise of Glory

Saint Blaise has watched over Dubrovnik for more than a millennium. His festivity is celebrated on February 3, a date which was, and remains the most festive and important day in Dubrovnik's longstanding history.



The deep connection between St Blaise and the tradition and lives of the people of Dubrovnik is shown by the number of times he appears in reliefs and sculptures around the city. No matter from which side you approach the Old Town of Dubrovnik, you will inevitably come upon his dominant figure holding a miniature version of the city in his hands.



More than just the patron-saint of Dubrovnik, St Blaise has become a reminder of the town's tradition and culture, a confirmation of the existence of the ancient city, a symbol of the independence of the Dubrovnik Republic and its turbulent history, a spiritual and religious unification of the town and the countryside into one inseparable whole.

The historical figure of Blasius was a physician, and bishop of Sebastia in Cappadocia (Turkey) who, according to legend, saved a child when a fish bone got stuck in his throat, with nothing but a sign of the cross on his forehead and a prayer. In his prayer, he said: "This is my prayer, which should not be only to the benefit of this child, but also to all who would ask you, dear God, in my name, to cure them of diseases of the throat. Help them and every human being."

## THE LEGEND

Citizens of Dubrovnik have celebrated St Blaise as their patron since the year 972 AD, when allegedly he saved the Dubrovnik Republic from an attack by their rivals, the Venetians.

The chroniclers record that Venetians anchored their ships in Gruž harbour and in front of the Island of Lokrum, under the pretence that they would sail for the Levant after they supplied themselves with food and drink. Instead, the visitors used the opportunity to see the sights and observe the weaknesses in the city's defence. However, St Blaise appeared to the town rector in a dream and warned him about the night attack. Preserving their independence, people proclaimed St Blaise as the patron of Dubrovnik, erected a church in his name and placed his image on their flag.

## THE CELEBRATION

Since the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the opening of the Celebration has begun on Candlemass, February 2, on The Holiday of Light in Dubrovnik called 'Kandelora'. The celebration officially begins at 3:30 in the afternoon when, with the clamour of all the bells in the city, the Rector of St Blaise's church releases a flock of white doves - symbolizing freedom and peace - the jewels which Dubrovnik Republic cherished and preserved for centuries. The Rector reads the greetings sent by Dubrovnik's sailors from all over the world and the saint's white flag is raised on Orlando's Column - yet another tradition rooted in the past times when Dubrovnik trading vessels sailed under St Blaise's flag and protection. This is followed by the "Laus" (well-wishing prayer) and girls in traditional costumes offer the fruits of the land, which symbolize the 12 months in yet another year of abundance. In the early afternoon, delegations from every parish in the region gather to pay their respects and salute with their





banners in front of the church of St Blaise. At the foot of the stairs, the group leader steps forward to salute Saint Blaise with his banner, up and down, then in three full circles clockwise and thrice more in the opposite direction. Some tall young heroes wield their heavy banners with tremendous panache, clearing the air like hammer throwers. Others struggle, but applause greets every performance.

The celebration itself reaches its climax the next morning, on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, with a solemn outdoor mass. The mass is followed by a procession of relics carried by the church clergy through the streets of the Old Town. The whole ceremony is almost mystical - the resounding of the rhymes of the Saint's hymn, mingle with the scent of laurel and candles. The streets are full to bursting; groups are standing in the Stradun, waiting behind their parishes' standard bearers, chatting among themselves, exchanging jokes. Many are dressed in traditional costumes, worn with pride by pilgrims of all ages: beautiful brocaded bodices,

#### FACT

The festival of St Blaise became a reminder of freedom. Interestingly, in the time of the Dubrovnik Republic, seven days before the ceremony, criminals were temporarily set free from prison, and all of those who had been banished forever from Dubrovnik Republic were granted permission to return only during the celebration time.



#### DID YOU KNOW

red and gilt caps, ballooning dark blue pantaloons and brilliant silk sashes for the men, heavy black skirts on the women. The older women wear starched white linen headdresses, the girls red caps or garlands of flowers. Other groups are in military uniform, carrying an assortment of weaponry, from antique crossbows and blunderbusses to serious modern hardware.

Against a background of hymn singing, the groups process the street towards the elegant 18<sup>th</sup> century façade of St Blaise's church. The next part of the procession is "gričanje" as all the people are called inside the church. At this ritual, the Rector places two crossed candles around the neck of the believer and gives his blessing with a sign of the cross. "Through the intercession of St Blaise, may God relieve you of ailments of the throat and other evils. Amen." It is believed that in this way with the provision of St Blaise, God will protect ones' throat from disease. By midday the first passage through the church is complete and the trumpets echo once more in a long salute until the next year.

The festivity of Saint Blaise, patron of Dubrovnik is an exceptional example of **intangible cultural heritage, recognized and protected by UNESCO**, which has maintained its traditional and distinctive qualities and excellence of expression for over a thousand years.

The whole ceremony is overseen by "festanjuli" (feast hosts). They are honourable guardians of law and custom specially chosen each year to organise the festivities in full detail. Dressed in black hats, white gloves and scarves, festanjuli inspire awe, in keeping with the tradition and dignity of the celebration of the patron saint. One always comes from the ranks of craftsmen and traders and one from seafarers, the two areas which contributed to the glory and riches of the Republic.





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*And above all, take it easy!*



# Going local

... INSIDER TIPS ...

In your research, before visiting Dubrovnik you have probably learned something about the local attractions, places to see, and must-visit locations. But in these pages, we will introduce you to our local customs, the way in which Dubrovnik people live and talk – something you cannot read in any guide. By now you have probably learned a few Croatian words to get by, but here we will teach you some of the local phrases that capture our way of living. Once you learn them, you can easily drop them into a conversation.  
O.K. Let's get started...



*Fjaka*

## Fjaka [FYAH-kah]

The specific state of mind and body in which a human aspires to do nothing.

The definition of fjaka is "a psychophysical state of mind when there is an aspiration for nothing and to do nothing." For those close to the Mediterranean way of life, fjaka could be compared as similar to the Spanish siesta. It is commonly mistaken for laziness, but that is not the case - it's actually quite the opposite. And it's not fatigue either. *Read on to find out why.*

Even those who know how to recognize fjaka or have been caught up in its rhythm will find it difficult to explain in a few words what it is exactly. Each person has their own explanation that is actually inexplicable. But they all agree on one thing - fjaka is a state of mind and cannot be learned.

### SYMPTOMS OF FJAKA

- moments of general drowsiness, slowness and indifference to all important and secondary needs
- everything feels as if it can wait
- a complete lack of desire for anything, especially any form of work – but not in a sense of laziness
- your body experiences a complete loss of energy but is not tired
- it can occur at any part of the day it is, so when you get caught by fjaka nothing can get you started.

### HOW AND WHEN IT OCCURS

You must have noticed that fjaka is not present in regions with colder climates, even not in the continental part of Croatia. It commonly occurs throughout the Mediterranean, when it's the hottest, where summer temperatures reach the maximum. So, when the sun, sea and afternoon heat merge, ideal conditions are created for a quality fjaka. Of course, fjaka can also be felt in other seasons, but then it is explained by other causes. In the spring, fjaka is about that weird changeable weather. In the fall, however, there is no other way to combat the "jugo" (south wind) and low pressure than with fjaka. So, you can see, it's all about Mother nature, not human laziness. That is why we use phrases like "pomalo" (check out our last year's edition for more info).

### SCIENTIFICALLY STUDIED AND INTERNATIONALLY EXPERIENCED

Believe it or not, many scientists have also been concerned with fjaka and have tried to find a reasonable explanation for it. As someone once said: "After all, it is not a disease, but a kind of spiritual bliss". Our close neighbours, the Italians, know this very well, as they invented a very similar phrase to fjaka - "dolce far niente" or "I feel like doing nothing", while in Spain they call it Siesta.

### CAN FJAKA BE TAUGHT?

Hardly, because experiencing fjaka is an individual thing. The intensity of each individual fjaka is not the same. It must be experienced personally, with a little help from

those who have already experienced it. So, the answer is no, fjaka cannot be taught because there is nothing to learn, but it can be gained. Once fjaka catches you, you learn to appreciate a slower lifestyle.

### STRESS RELIEF

Defined as a state of mind in which one wants nothing, fjaka actually makes miracles. Being caught in a constant race with time, jobs, responsibilities and other stressful moments, fjaka is actually a way of stepping beyond time. It is the ability to enjoy being alone without thinking about anything. It allows you to take a break from everything, slow down for some time, gather your thoughts and rest in order to be able to move on. Having said that, we can all agree that fjaka is a wonderful cure for stress.

When you start to feel first symptoms of fjaka just surrender to it, let your mind wanders *and do...nothing...* Just say "uhvatila me fjaka" (I'm in the state of fjaka) and everything will be forgiven.





The work of the jewellers was in high demand not only in the Dubrovnik Republic, but also far beyond its borders. Not just craftsmen in those days, their work was honoured and in high demand from the nobility to the wealthiest citizens, and representatives of the church - jewellers were included in all levels of the Republic high society. One could open a jewellery workshop in only one area of the city - on Zlatarska Street. Thanks to this restriction, tradition was well preserved. Jewellers did not travel around to other cities and villages, but rather worked to improve their skills for generations, and Dubrovnik became the centre for jewellery craft in all of Europe. However, it was also this concentration of production in the end, that became near fatal for the jewellery industry of the Republic.

In 1667, a devastating earthquake shook Dubrovnik to the ground. More than 5,000 lives were lost, and a majority of the buildings destroyed, leaving the entire city vulnerable and in ruin. The fate and story of Zlatarska street ended here - the city invaded by the forces of the Ottoman Empire who took advantage of the weakness of Dubrovnik, knowing well there would be riches to be found amongst the rubble. The neighbours to the West did not sit idle either, and Venice also decided the fate of the Dubrovnik Republic, depriving it of independence, and ultimately handing the city over to the mighty Roman Empire.

# Cultural heritage and fine artisan craftsmanship

RETURNING TO ITS ROOTS IN THE HEART OF DUBROVNIK

There is one hidden street, located in direct vicinity to the main promenade - just steps away from the bustling Stradun and the magnificent Sponza Palace. A narrow street with an incredible history. In the 15<sup>th</sup> century, silver exported from Dubrovnik made for over one-fifth of European and Mediterranean trade. What remained in Dubrovnik was in the hands of the nobility or ecclesiastical realms, such as the statue of Sveti Vlaho (St. Blaise), that still to this day adorns the altar of the church. During the remarkable time of the Republic, the demand for the handcrafted mastery of Dubrovnik goldsmiths and jewellers became so important and lucrative for the city that one street in the Old town was dedicated solely to the goldsmiths. Aptly named *Zlatarska, (Goldsmiths) street*.

Miraculously, not all the masterpieces and treasured works were lost and one of the most revered works produced in the style of hot enamelware and gold, the sacred head of the patron St. Blaise adorned in gold and enamel survived - and is one of the most central sacral objects in the procession of St. Blaise, celebrated for over 1000 years!



So, today, after centuries have passed since the rise and fall of Zlatarska street, the jewellery traditions of Dubrovnik are returning to their historical place.

Fine jewellery and watchmaker, NAMFLEG will open its doors on Zlatarska street! Here you can find that special jewellery piece - a symbolic memory of Dubrovnik.

Inspired by the history and the beauty of Dubrovnik, NAMFLEG is famous for unique jewellery and luxury watches produced in the ancient methods of cloisonné - the most sophisticated and intricate of all enamel techniques in the tradition of Dubrovnik's Byzantine artists, and the Fabergé workshop. All pieces are made of 925 silver or 18 karat gold-plated, with certain pieces inlaid with zirconium elements for unique designs that reflect the beauty and soul of Dubrovnik. NAMFLEG jewellery design combines

intricate silver and gold-plated work, inlaid with vividly coloured enamel fired and polished to a perfect luminous finish to last a lifetime.

Visitors can explore not only jewellery masterpieces but also the exclusive line of wristwatches by NAMFLEG. Using the rare technology of hardstone-carving also known as Florentine micro-mosaics, NAMFLEG artisans carve thinnest veneers out of natural semi-precious stones to create their one of a kind watch-faces. The hardstone inlay technique is a new innovation in fine jewellery production that ensures the mosaics will never fade or lose their lustre. All NAMFLEG products are certified for exceptional quality standards.



Exquisite objects, each piece is a Florentine mosaic meticulously reduced to fit the face, consisting of up to 200 semi-precious stones and filigree mastery. Special, and something out of the ordinary - all watches are limited editions, true and finite masterpieces to see for yourself.



Every year on February 3, Dubrovnik citizens celebrate their patron saint of the city, Sveti Vlaho (**St. Blaise**). On this day, the saint appeared and warned the priest Stojko of an approaching Venetian attack on Dubrovnik - thus saving the city. The most important celebration of the year - a procession presenting the relics of St. Blaise, and a magnificent gold adorned head that was produced by the Dubrovnik goldsmiths.

It is a theory that **Carl Fabergé** took inspiration from this famous relic and centuries later, he revived and updated the ancient and specialized technique of applying hot enamel to gold. His result - the prized Fabergé eggs that are housed in museums and collections worldwide. Although he obtained great fame and success for his works, it also caused furor and uproar amongst the royalty of Europe.



**INSIDE TIP**

If you have your own idea and inspiration for the design of a watch face of your dreams, the masters of the NAMFLEG salon workshop are also happy to bring them to life for you.

Visit NAMFLEG, for a lasting and unique memory of Dubrovnik. Step into the workshop to view the on-site artisans, with the opportunity to take part in creating your own one of a kind piece of jewellery. NAMFLEG invites visitors to observe and participate in the production and craftsmanship of their jewellery.

Drop by Zlatarska street that has come to life with historical tradition once again - and take away a very special keepsake of Dubrovnik!



**Cloisonné** (French pronunciation: [klwazɔne]) is an ancient technique for decorating metalwork objects. In recent centuries, vitreous enamel has been used, and inlays of cut gemstones, glass, and other materials were also used during older periods. The resulting objects can also be called cloisonné. The decoration is formed by first adding compartments (cloisons in French) to the metal object by soldering or affixing silver or gold wires or thin strips placed on their edges. These remain visible in the finished piece, separating the different compartments of the enamel or inlays, which are often of several colours.

Cloisonné, or enamelware is one of the most sophisticated and intricate techniques used in gold and silver smithery and jewellery design. The unique enamelware technique used by NAMFLEG artisans can be traced back to the golden age of the Dubrovnik Republic (14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> c.).

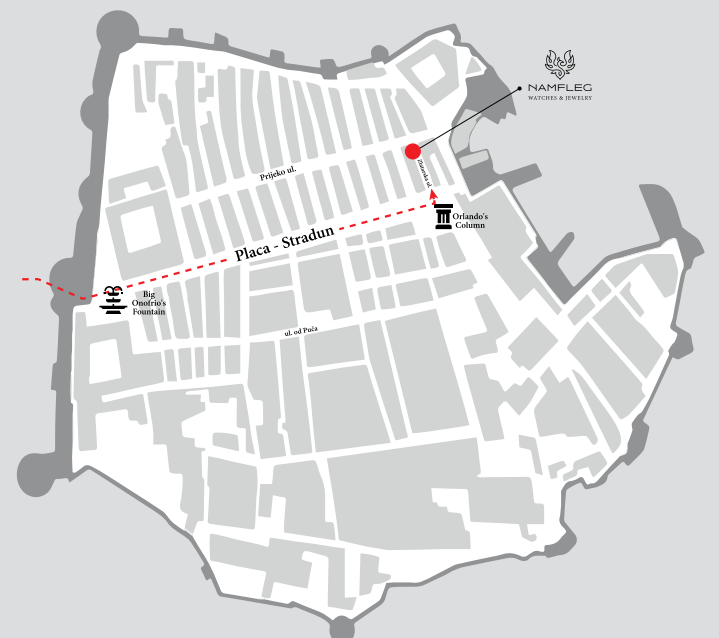


**VISIT**

**ZLATARSKA 17**

Zlatarska is the first street on the right when you are arriving from Ploce Gate and reach Stradun. Sponza palace is on the corner. It is right across from Orlando column and St. Blaise church.

When entering through Pile gate, walk down Stradun until the end. The last street on your left with Sponza palace on the corner is Zlatarska.



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**INFO**

**NAMFLEG**  
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MOBILE: +385 91 590 2620  
www.namfleg.com

**WORKING HOURS:**  
10:00 – 22:00 (summer season)  
10:00 – 18:00 (winter season)



# The Lazareti (Quarantine)



Dubrovnik was among the first cities in the world to introduce a quarantine system as a protective measure against infectious diseases?

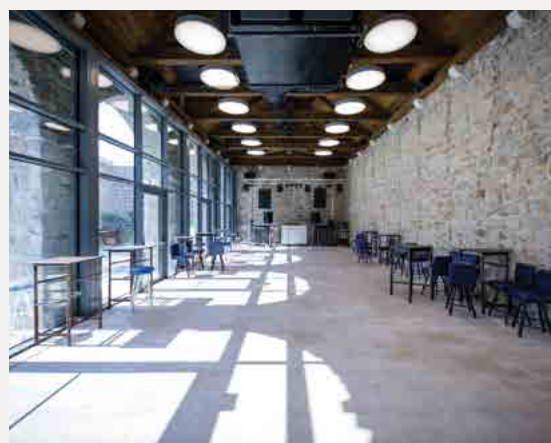


The Dubrovnik quarantine complex is considered to be one of the greatest medical initiatives of the Middle Ages, which became a legacy for all mankind. Although today, the complex has been preserved in a slightly altered form, its essence has remained the same. The quarantine itself is not a medieval scientific invention, rather it was created as a result of practical medicine, maritime courage, trading organization and the wisdom of the leaders of the Dubrovnik Republic.

The period between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries was known as the most difficult time of plague and cholera epidemics in Europe and Asia. The Mediterranean was not spared either.

For centuries, Dubrovnik was an active merchant transit centre on the Adriatic and a major crossroad of maritime and caravan trade routes. In order to isolate the travellers and goods from the eastern countries where the outbreaks of contagious diseases were frequent, and to protect its citizens, but also to make sure that the trade wouldn't be disrupted, the Dubrovnik council decided in 1377 to introduce plague protection measures from various epidemics that were threatening Dubrovnik.

On July 23, 1377, Dubrovnik Great Council issued the first quarantine regulation, stating that anyone who had lived abroad or arrived from areas infected with plague, had



to spend 40 days in isolation, together with their potentially dangerous cargo, before entering the city. Only if it was proven after one month that the person was healthy, would they be allowed to enter the city.

## FIRST QUARANTINES

The earliest quarantine facilities were constructed on the nearby uninhabited islands of Mrkan, Bobara and Supetar opposite the town of Cavtat. Later, in the 1430s, a quarantine was built closer to the city with a church and cemetery on Danče. Due to the lack of space, in 1534 the city council decided to construct a larger quarantine on the island of Lokrum; however, it was never finished; probably because of the potential danger that invading Venetians might use the complex as a fortress in the immediate vicinity of the city which would naturally endanger its freedom.

## LAZARETI

The poor conditions on the islands, where these people lived quarantined without a roof over their heads, were almost as devastating as the disease itself, so the authorities decided to build a permanent solution. As the space in Danče became too small, in 1627 the City Council decided to build a new quarantine – Lazareti, 300 meters from the east entrance to the city – today Ploče, as this was the route where caravans loaded with Ottoman goods intended for Ragusan and Italian markets would arrive. That was the time when the main Lazareti complex was born. The construction and adaptation of the entire complex lasted until 1647. The last major building works on Lazareti were done in 1784 and the structure continued to serve this





purpose until 1872. In the beginning, the Lazareti complex was made from wood so that it could be easily burned to the ground in case of plague. Later, the structures were replaced with stone and finally, the complex gained two floors comprising of ten houses/lazarettos, five courtyards and two guardhouses located at each side of the area with residential buildings. The entire complex was enclosed by 2,30-meter-high walls and was secured with sea and land gates.

**THE GROUND FLOOR** of Lazareti was used as a warehouse to handle the goods and livestock brought from the merchant ships. Its central courtyard was enclosed by a southern wall with a semi-circular door facing the seaside and was used to unload the goods and stock from the ships. It also served the process of disinfection of particular merchandise. After decontamination, goods were then stored in concealed porches with large arches on both sides of the courtyard.

**THE UPPER FLOOR**, which was reached by a staircase from the ground floor, had a large, shared courtyard with small residential buildings, used for housing passengers who had to go through quarantine.

Entrances from the plateau to each Lazareti (a house within the quarantine), were marked with Roman numerals from east to the west so that they could be easily identified. Unlike others that had only a ground floor, one lazaretto was the biggest and had an additional single floor with a roof above the courtyard on the Lazaretto plateau. This was the house and office of a Turkish officer who was a merchant traveller in Dubrovnik and had the authority to be a judge for all Turkish subjects arriving in Dubrovnik.

Visiting merchants and travellers were placed in houses on the Lazareti plateau, which had its own water supply, staff and attendants, kitchen, and small open terraces where they could go out to have a breath of fresh air. Quarantine regulations were rather strict, but the quarantined travellers were still able to walk freely across the entire plateau of the Lazareti. The only rule they had to follow is not to mix with passengers who had already been released from quarantine and the ones who lived outside the complex. In times when there was no threat from the plague, the procedures were less strict, and the Lazareti Square would liven up. Detained merchants, travellers, dignitaries, pirates, priests, couriers, and other people from different parts of the world and of many religions would be able to socialize freely on the square. That was also a perfect opportunity for the local residents to find out about potential threats or information that could be useful for the Dubrovnik Republic, so they would immediately run to inform the Rector about it.

That is why the Lazareti square was also considered to be a true spy hub.

With all these facilities and perfectly designed layout, Lazareti were considered more of an institution, rather than just an isolation building. It had guards, a captain of the Lazareti who was responsible for the entire complex, sanitation soldiers, temporary officials, gravediggers, cleaners, priest, a doctor, a barber-surgeon and substantial number of servants.

#### SIGNIFICANCE OF LAZARETTOS

Due to its great economic and strategic importance for Dubrovnik, Lazareti were regularly maintained in the time of Dubrovnik Republic from the state funds.

— In 1724, the Senate proclaimed Lazareti to be an integral part of the City's fortifications.

— In 1994, as being one of the few rare preserved lazarettos in the Mediterranean, Dubrovnik Lazareti were added to the UNESCO heritage list.

Today, the Lazareti have been well preserved and completely restored. We can proudly say that this impressive 5000 square meters complex serves today a better purpose and better residents - non-profit cultural and art organizations. An ideal event venue, some spaces are used for various art and crafts workshops, while others serve as a stage for performances by the Lindo Folklore Ensemble, as well as a central point for many concerts and entertainment.



#### INTERESTING POINTS

★  
At the time of the plague, the people of Dubrovnik thought that the plague could be healed and treated with vinegar and sour milk. They believed that vinegar killed the pathogens while sour milk would ease the pain.

★  
Dubrovnik was ravaged by more than 50 epidemics that killed over 100,000 people; however, the construction of the Lazareti prevented these numbers from being even higher.

★  
During the time of the Ploče Lazarettos, only a single plague outbreak affected the territory of the City of Dubrovnik. At the beginning of January 1691, the disease breached the city walls, but was suppressed in three months, and took 90 lives.

★  
In 1808 the French established a health commission in the Lazareti, which continued to operate during the Austrian rule until 1918.

★  
Today, the State Archive in Dubrovnik contains 14 record books of quarantine that document the time from 1716 to 1801, and later on the time of the Austrian governance. According to the records from the Archive, the Lazareti as a healthcare institution was abolished around 1872.

★  
In some point after 1911, there was a plan to transform the Lazareti into a hotel, but it was never approved.

★  
From the late 1970s to the early 1990s, the complex became a multifunctional social, cultural and tourist venue, but the outbreak of the Croatian War of Independence (1991-1995) brought its gradual decline.

★  
In the early 21<sup>st</sup> century Lazareti again gained its long-awaited renovation, while in 2017 and 2018 it was completely reconstructed to its original charm.

★



# Events in Dubrovnik

\*some events are subject to change. Please visit their websites or social media pages for the latest update.

## PERFORMANCES & MUSIC FESTIVALS

### AKLAPELA – VOCAL GROUP FESTIVAL April 2021

Aklapela is a yearly gathering of the most accomplished *klapa* a cappella singing groups in Croatia. Concert performances feature both men's and women's groups, in this traditional vocal style. The festival is held after Easter.  
[www.aklapela.hr](http://www.aklapela.hr)

### PERFORMANCES OF FOLKLORE ENSEMBLE

#### LINĐO

#### May – October 2021

(Tuesdays and Fridays at 21:30), Lazareti (east entrance of the Old Town Dubrovnik) The Linđo Folk Ensemble was founded in Dubrovnik in 1964 and consists of more than 300 members between the ages of 12 and 30, who perform traditional songs and dances from all regions of Croatia. With their youthful enthusiasm and traditional costumes, they celebrate the heritage of our people.  
[www.lindjo.hr](http://www.lindjo.hr)

### LE PETIT FESTIVAL DU THÉÂTRE

#### June 2021

The Festival every year raises the curtain revealing creations carefully selected and talented artists whether they are poets, actors, dancers, or something else.  
[www.lepetitfestival.com](http://www.lepetitfestival.com)

### MUSICAL SCENE FESTIVAL "ANA IN TOWN"

#### June 21, 2021

This three-day music festival starts with a fantastic concert at the dawn of the first day of summer and World Music Day on June 21<sup>st</sup>, featuring cellist Ana Rucner, a young artist of distinctive musical style, in a dual role - a classical musician and a crossover instrumentalist.

### MIDSUMMER SCENE FESTIVAL

#### June – July 2021

St. Lawrence Fortress  
Take a look at Shakespeare's one of the most beloved comedies "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (performed in English) as the main part of this famous Croatian festival aimed for international visitors.  
[midsummer-scene.com](http://midsummer-scene.com)

### SUMMER EVENTS PROGRAM AT

#### DUBROVNIK SURROUNDINGS

#### July – August 2021

Enjoy music and entertainment programs on the Elafiti Islands, in Zaton and Orašac and witness the Mediterranean melody, folklore and folk traditions that have been cherished for ages.  
[www.tzdubrovnik.hr](http://www.tzdubrovnik.hr)

### TIŠINA, MOLIM! (QUIET, PLEASE!)

#### November 2021

This new film festival in Dubrovnik offers to its visitors interactive educational content, film screenings, visual attractions, and plenty of surprises. During the fourteen days of the festival, tourists and Dubrovnik locals of all generations have the opportunity to become acquainted with all of the ties between Dubrovnik and the history of film culture over the last hundred years.  
[www.tisinamolim.com](http://www.tisinamolim.com)

## CLASSICAL MUSIC CONCERTS

Featured by Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra | [www.dso.hr](http://www.dso.hr)

### DUBROVNIK MUSICAL SPRING

#### April – May 2021

Featuring a wide repertoire and many distinguished guests, performing famous classical, Baroque, romantic, contemporary and Croatian compositions. Music director of this festival is Marc Tardue.

### ORLANDO FURIOSO

#### June 2021 | Rector's Palace

A cycle of baroque music led by Russian musician virtuoso, Dmitry Sinkovsky.

### INTERNATIONAL OPERA ARIAS FESTIVAL

#### "TINO PATTIERA"

#### June – July 2021

The festival honours the memory of the world-famous tenor Tino Pattiera (born in Cavtat), who was one of the major singers in the opera houses of Europe and throughout the world during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The festival gathers together amazing Croatian and international opera singers and the festival is led by conductors Marc Tardue and Ivan Hut.

### LATE SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL DUBROVNIK

#### August – September 2021 | Rector's Palace

With concerts, which are traditionally held in the beautiful ambience of Rector's Palace, we bid farewell to summer through four weeks of the festival. This year's festival hosts famous musicians such as pianists Dubravka Tomšič Srebotnjak and Jasminka Stančul, violinist Luka Ljubas and many others while the music director of the festival is Marc Tardue.

### STRADUN CLASSIC, FESTIVAL

#### September – October 2021 | Rector's Palace

International chamber music festival led by renowned clarinetist Marija Pavlovic. In addition to play in chamber, the guest world class soloists perform as soloists and with orchestra as well. The festival is gathering the top classical musicians from all over the world. Some of those musicians this year are Gordan Nikolić, Céline Flamen and Radovan Vlatković.

### AUTUMN MUSIC VARIETY

#### October 2021

An absolutely wonderful variety of music genres from movie music, popular classic to gypsy jazz, with an accent on promoting exceptional Croatian musicians.

## SPORTING EVENTS

### RUN THE WALL – DU MOTION

#### 2021 | Stradun

An unforgettable, but dangerous race as well. Once a year The Walls of Dubrovnik, considered to be amongst the greatest fortification systems of the Middle Ages and running an uninterrupted course of approximately 1,940 metres and 1080 stairs, while encircling most of the Old City, serve as a track field to a very tricky 2,5K race.  
[www.du-motion.com](http://www.du-motion.com)

### DUBROVNIK HALF MARATHON – DU MOTION

#### April 24 and 25, 2021 | Stradun

The marathon running, especially two-kilometre long race with a limited number of participants held at Dubrovnik walls is certainly an attraction. With the motto "More than a race" this new event is more than just a sporting event since, through running, healthy lifestyles will be promoted.  
[www.du-motion.com](http://www.du-motion.com)

### 5K - CHARITY RACE – DU MOTION

#### 2021 | Stradun

One of the most beautiful race tracks for a good cause.  
[www.du-motion.com](http://www.du-motion.com)

### "EARTH, SEA & FIRE" DUBROVNIK TRIATHLON

#### October 9, 2021

A weekend multi-sport event welcoming athletes, looking for a flat course aiming at their PB or other records with Super Sprint, Sprint, and Olympic Triathlon on the menu.  
[www.earthseafire.eu](http://www.earthseafire.eu)

### STON WALL MARATHON

#### September 19, 2021

Starting and ending in the picturesque town of Ston, the full marathon route takes you south to Pržina and north to Duba Stonska, following stretches of the medieval Ston Walls and the Adriatic coast.  
[www.ston-wall-marathon.com](http://www.ston-wall-marathon.com)

### WATERPOLO "WILD LEAGUE"

#### July – August, 2021

This is the largest amateur water polo competition in the world, started in 1922. More than 40 teams from various local neighbourhoods compete at beach locations throughout the city.  
[www.divljaliga.hr](http://www.divljaliga.hr)

## GASTRONOMY

### CROATIAN FESTIVAL OF JAMS AND

#### MARMALADES

#### first week of October, 2021 | in front of St. Blaise church

Exhibitors dress in the national costumes of the places from which they come, from counties from all around Croatia, and present their products to visitors and Dubrovnik restaurateurs caterers, who will use these native delicacies to elevate and enrich their gastronomic offerings.  
[www.desa-dubrovnik.hr](http://www.desa-dubrovnik.hr)

### GOOD FOOD FESTIVAL DUBROVNIK

#### October 2021

The four-day programme includes several presentations of culinary specialties of the region, cookbooks in English, programmes for children, tasting of regional wines, culinary workshops and other activities such as "dinner with a famous chef" and workshops on how to prepare a typical Dubrovnik sweet "gulozece", "Eat & Walk" gastro tour, "Sweet Tooth Map" – a map for those who have a sweet tooth and other surprise activities.  
[www.tzdubrovnik.hr](http://www.tzdubrovnik.hr)

### DUBROVNIK FESTIWINE

#### April 2021

This regional wine festival gathers more than a hundred regional winemakers who have the opportunity to present their wines to numerous wine professionals and visitors. In 2017 the festival opened its doors to participants outside Croatia and thus became an international festival. Visitors will have an opportunity to taste fine wines and be a part of numerous wine workshops together with wine experts and sommeliers.  
[www.dubrovnikfestiwine.com](http://www.dubrovnikfestiwine.com)

## NIGHTLIFE

### CULTURE CLUB REVELIN

Located in the Revelin fortress at the entrance to the Old Town at Ploče Gate, the club is famous for its 3-day festival in August featuring famous performers on the global electronic music scene.  
[www.clubrevelin.com](http://www.clubrevelin.com)

## CELEBRATIONS

### FESTIVAL OF ST. BLAISE

#### February 2 – 10

Each February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Dubrovnik celebrates the Virgin Mary Candlemas. An old saying is then repeated: *Candelora, winter is gone, followed by Saint Blaise, who says it is untrue?* Indeed, on this day, Dubrovnik is full of mimosa, narcissus, and sunny, spring weather. On the morning of the festival, white doves are released in front of St. Blaise's church, and prayers are said in front of the altar by the faithful the entire day. The priests bless everyone with a cross-shaped out of two intertwined candles, and raise a silver monstrance to their lips, the work of Dubrovnik goldsmiths.  
[www.dubrovnik.hr](http://www.dubrovnik.hr)

### DUBROVNIK CARNIVAL FESTIVITIES

#### February 13 – 16, 2021

*Our ancestors had fun, so why shouldn't we?* This proverb can often be heard in Dubrovnik in February, during the carnival season preceding Lent. Experience the special atmosphere of the Dubrovnik carnival festivities characterized by jokes, laughter, merriment, joy, satire.  
[www.tzdubrovnik.hr](http://www.tzdubrovnik.hr)

### 71<sup>ST</sup> DUBROVNIK SUMMER FESTIVAL

#### July 10 – August 25, 2021

This is the largest and most representative cultural manifestation not only in Dubrovnik but in Croatia. Festival sees more than 80 performances of music, theatre, dance and film, at various open-air locations in the old town, plus a programme of outdoor cinema.  
[www.dubrovnik-festival.hr](http://www.dubrovnik-festival.hr)

### DUBROVNIK WINTER FESTIVAL

#### December – January

During the Advent season, Dubrovnik shines with magical decorations and sparkles with lights, creating an atmosphere of a fairy-tale Renaissance city. The festival offers innumerable reasons for gatherings while combining fun, culture, enjoyment, music, gastronomy and art on the most attractive stages in the City and its surrounding areas.  
[www.tzdubrovnik.hr](http://www.tzdubrovnik.hr)

### ADVENT IN THE CITY

The program of Dubrovnik's winter festival – Advent in the City – begins with the lighting of the first Advent candle. This year's Christmas market will be set up on the most beautiful street in Dubrovnik, Stradun featuring local craftsman presenting traditional arts and crafts, Dubrovnik sweet delicacies, Christmas decorations, candles, toys, glassware, embroidery, ceramics, porcelain and a variety of other hand-made souvenirs and gifts.

### DUBROVNIK NEW YEAR'S PARTY







On New Year's Eve, the musicians of Dubrovnik see the old year out with traditional carols and an all-day music program leading up to the wildest night of the year. The Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra's New Year's Day concert on the Stradun on January 1 will be a special gift to those visiting the city.



FINEST SELECTION

# Wine 'n dine in Dubrovnik

For all your foodie lovers, we bring you our recommendation of the finest places to eat and drink in Dubrovnik. ssshhh... Choose wisely or choose all...

-  FISH RESTAURANT
-  FINE DINING
-  CASUAL DINING
-  RESTAURANT & CAFÉ
-  RESTAURANT & BAR
-  ETHNIC / NATIONAL RESTAURANT

## Nautika Restaurant

SOPHISTICATED MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE

Among the world's ten most romantic restaurants according to Condé Nast Traveller magazine.

PRICING: €€€ | LOCATION: Brsalje 3 (Pile Gate)  
T: +385 (0)20 442 526  
sales@nautikarestaurants.com  
www.nautikarestaurants.com



## Dubravka 1836 Restaurant & Café

CASUAL MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE

The rich Mediterranean cuisine, prepared from original ingredients from the Dubrovnik area, directed by top culinary masters, will contribute to the full experience of the beauty of Dubrovnik.

PRICING: €€ | LOCATION: Brsalje 1 (Pile Gate)  
T: +385 (0)20 426 319  
sales@nautikarestaurants.com  
www.nautikarestaurants.com



## Restaurant Sesame

MODERN MEDITERRANEAN DINING

200 meters from Pile gate there is a hidden gem where you can enjoy the natural shade of terraces. Experience local food – the best of Mediterranean cuisine.

PRICING: €€ | LOCATION: Dante Alighieri 2  
T: +385 (0)20 412 910  
info@sesame.hr  
www.sesame.hr



## Fish Restaurant Proto

AUTHENTIC DALMATIAN CUISINE

In the heart of the Old City, savour the traditional specialities once enjoyed by the distinguished citizenry of Dubrovnik's olden days.

PRICING: €€ | LOCATION: Old City, Široka ul. 1  
T: +385 (0)20 323 234  
sales2@esculap-teo.hr  
www.esculaprestaurants.com



## Restaurant Dubrovnik

TASTE MATTERS

Fresh ingredients, capably prepared: simply a good meal.

PRICING: €€€ | LOCATION: Old Town, Marojice Kaboge 5  
T: +385 (0)99 2585 871  
restorandubrovnik@gmail.com  
www.restorandubrovnik.com



## Gradska kavana Arsenal Restaurant & Bar

MODERN MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE

Experience the atmosphere of the Mediterranean meal prepared from selected local ingredients, ennobling old recipes with modern culinary techniques.

PRICING: €€ | LOCATION: Old Town, Pred Dvorom 1  
T: +385 (0)20 321 202  
sales@nautikarestaurants.com  
www.nautikarestaurants.com



## Posat Restaurant

AUTHENTIC MEDITERRANEAN FINE DINING

Experience the true essence of Dubrovnik through extraordinary food and unique setting overlooking the Old Town.

PRICING: €€€ | LOCATION: Uz Posat 1, Pile Gate  
T: +385 (0)20 421 194  
info@posat-dubrovnik.com  
www.posat-dubrovnik.com



## Restaurant Kopun

CROATIAN NATIONAL CUISINE IN A NEW WAY

Here at restaurant Kopun we take great pride in our efforts to bring back some of the old Croatian recipes handed down through centuries.

PRICING: €€ | LOCATION: Poljana R. Boškovića 7  
T: +385 (0)20 323 969  
reservation@restaurantkopun.com  
www.restaurantkopun.com



## Konavoski Dvori Eco Green Restaurant

AUTHENTICALLY CROATIAN

Konavoski Dvori offers a unique experience for the senses, with its picturesque setting and national specialities prepared in the style of Croatian grandmothers.

PRICING: €€  
LOCATION: Ljuta b.b., 20217 Ljuta – Konavle region  
T: +385 (0)20 791 039 | sales2@esculap-teo.hr  
www.esculaprestaurants.com





## DELICIOUS SECRETS: RECIPES FROM OLD DUBROVNIK

# Prikle

(mini doughnuts)

Prikle, also called fritule, are a traditional Dubrovnik festive dessert resembling little doughnuts but in a ball shape. They are traditionally prepared for Easter and Christmas as a treat, but that does not mean you can't make them any time of the year when you want something sweet.

Loved by young and old alike, Prikle are highly addictive, crunchy on the outside yet soft and fluffy on the inside.

The preparation is not very difficult, so making Prikle is a great opportunity to spend time with children; having fun and preparing a dish which will they love.

Every region in Croatia has its own recipe for Prikle; some include yoghurt, potatoes, rum, raisins, apples etc... The aroma that spreads through the house while Prikle are frying is irresistible. Prikle are best while they are still hot, fresh from the oil when they are also the softest.

Over the centuries, many extra ingredients and toppings have been added, so, in some places, you can find them served with chocolate, vanilla, caramel or fruit toppings, but we think that the original ones topped only with powdered sugar are still the best.

We bring you a traditional Dubrovnik feast recipe that is absolutely amazing and is easy to make. And of course, the recipe is not complete without rakija (Croatian brandy) - it prevents the dough from soaking up oil while frying.



ALH TIMES  
DID YOU KNOW  
ISSUE 2021

Prikle were a sign of prosperity, the holidays, and the warmth of the home.

## FEW TIPS

### INGREDIENTS

1 kg flour  
30 g yeast  
30 ml homemade Rakija (grappa brandy) or rum  
40 g sugar  
25 g vanilla sugar  
grated orange and lemon peel  
pinch of salt  
Raisins (optional)  
0.8 litres of oil

\*\*\*

### SERVES

a lot or a few (depending on your appetite)

### PREPARATION TIME

30 minutes

### DIFFICULTY

easy

### FOR SPRINKLING

powdered sugar and cinnamon

### PREPARATION

- 1 Dissolve the yeast with a little lukewarm water, add a little sugar and part of the flour, knead, cover lightly and leave in a warm place to rise.
- 2 If you decide to add raisins, place them for a few minutes in additional 1 dl of grappa (homemade brandy) to soak and soften
- 3 In a separate large bowl, put the sifted flour and make a hole in the middle. Add the risen yeast in the hole, mix all these together and add a little salted lukewarm water. Start beating the dough with a wooden spatula and gradually add the brandy, lemon and orange zest and strained raisins in the dough. Continue mixing until the dough gets small bubbles that start to burst. Cover the dough and leave it for a while (30 min.) in a warm place to rise
- 4 Put the oil in a deep pan and heat it
- 5 **HOW TO MAKE A BALL:** When the oil is hot, take a small fistful of dough and squeeze the dough upward between the fingers of one hand to form a ball and remove it with a teaspoon that you previously dipped in warm water, then drop the ball in the hot oil. If this is too hard, you can also use a large tablespoon to scoop out the dough in ball shape and place it to fry in deep hot oil.
- 6 Continue dipping the spoon in water before scraping off each ball of dough, until your pan surface is nicely filled but not crowded.
- 7 When fried enough on one side, the dough balls usually turn themselves on the other side, if not, you just have to touch them with a fork, and they will turn.
- 8 Fry Prikle on both sides until they turn golden brown.
- 9 Remove them and put them on a piece of paper to absorb grease
- 10 Sprinkle warm Prikle with a mixture of powdered sugar and cinnamon

- 1 The cooking time is very short. Fry them on low to medium-low heat, but be sure the doughnuts are nicely browned before removing them from the hot oil, otherwise, they can be soggy and gooey inside.
- 2 It's advisable to fry just a few balls of Prikle at a time, allowing them to inflate and rotate by themselves. Putting too many balls in the pan may result in balls sticking together.
- 3 Have a teaspoon and a cup of warm water handy. Dipping the spoon in warm water before scraping off the ball of dough prevents the dough from sticking to the spoon and makes it easier to place it in the pan.

### WHERE TO BUY THEM

If you find yourself in Dubrovnik during Christmas time, walking along the Stradun in the Old Town, you will for sure notice the irresistible scent of Prikle in the air. Well, this is the sign that you are in the right place at the right time. Just visit any of the festive stands along the Stradun and ask for Prikle – you will definitely find them. The price ranges from 15 to 20 kunas for a cup and if you want to additionally sweeten them, ask for additional toppings. However, we still recommend them just with powdered sugar as they are perfect just as they are – simple, sweet, and delicious.



## SENSUS

# Fine dining restaurant

Dinner menu designed for Sensus Restaurant is created to reflect its sleek and contemporary interiors; unconventional and creative dishes are made from fresh local delicacies and carefully paired with finest Croatian wines from wine cellar shelves which adorn the walls.



Executive chef Petar Obad, a bard and native of Konavle in south Croatia, infuses his masterful cuisine with a near-poetic beauty to elevate traditional homemade Mediterranean classics to world-class works of artistry.

Lunch offer is a somewhat "lighter" selection of wraps, soups, risottos but the dinner takes you on the ultimate Mediterranean gourmet journey.

In Sensus, the food can only be outshined by the magnificence of the setting: the sun reflecting off the stoned walls of the Old Town and deep blues of the Adriatic in the background.

**INFO****LOCATION**

Hotel Excelsior Dubrovnik  
Frana Supila 12, Dubrovnik

**STYLE TIP**

Classy seaside chic

**RESERVATIONS**

Please contact the Front Desk

**INSIDE TIP**

Ask our sommelier to personally get you acquainted with each dish and to recommend the perfect wine pairing from our wine cellar shelves.

## VICTORIA RESTAURANT &amp; LOUNGE BAR

# A Peruvian plate with Adriatic flavour

Set on a grapevine-draped terrace overlooking the Adriatic Sea, Restaurant Victoria is a gastronomic destination in itself. Victoria offers a unique Peruvian fusion experience complemented by an extensive wine list and sublime views of the Dubrovnik Old Town.



Peruvian people proudly state that their culinary style is unique - so does Roberto Chavez, the young head chef of Victoria Restaurant, the first Peruvian restaurant on the Adriatic. The richness of tastes comes from an already unique blend of different microclimates combining fresh local ingredients with ethnic influences that make Peruvian cuisine so authentic.

Asked to describe the Victoria Restaurant in few words, Roberto calls it authentic, original, beautiful, vibrant, and completely different - just like Peruvian cuisine.

**INFO****LOCATION**

Villa Orsula Dubrovnik  
Frana Supila 14, Dubrovnik

**STYLE TIP**

Côte d'Azur allure: a coral or chartreuse dress, a crisp linen shirt.

**RESERVATIONS**

Please contact the Front Desk

**INSIDE TIP**

Ask for the table in the corner underneath the grapevine-draped terrace and enjoy the divine views at sunset, with the orange sun dipping beneath the horizon and the iconic walls of the Old Town in the distance.



## RESTAURANT VAPOR

*“What’s on the menu?” is out.  
“What would I like to eat?” is in.*

For the third year in a row, the prestigious gastronomic guide Michelin published a selection of top restaurants in Croatia among which, Restaurant Vapor was also listed.



Hidden from the outside world on a 30-metre high cliff, the Hotel Bellevue’s a la carte restaurant, Vapor, is the must-taste dining experience for every gourmet visiting Dubrovnik. The restaurant follows the fundamental philosophy of the Hotel Bellevue: everything is adapted to the wishes of the guests.

The focus is on the finest seasonal produce prepared with an innovative and aesthetic twist and complemented by one of the best wine lists in Dubrovnik. Small wonder that Vapor that has quickly gained an iconic reputation as one of the finest in Croatia and recognized by Michelin guide.

**INFO****LOCATION**

Hotel Bellevue Dubrovnik  
Pera Čingrije 7, Dubrovnik

**STYLE TIP**

Should you choose to join this restaurant’s chic atmosphere, keep it jet-set casual.

**RESERVATIONS**

Please contact the Front Desk

**INSIDE TIP**

Book a table on the terrace and enjoy incomparable vistas of the Adriatic azure. While trying to decide what to indulge in, order one of the Vapor’s delicious cocktails or sample some of the best local wines.

## TAVERNA MASLINA

## A Contemporary Dalmatian Tavern

Maslina has the atmosphere of a Mediterranean tavern, with a menu inspired by the finest local ingredients. From light appetizers, and a choice of fresh fish specialities, to typical Dalmatian meat dishes, you’ll enjoy fabulous cuisine complemented by stunning views all the way to the Elafiti Islands.



Everything about this Tavern is fresh. The breeze coming in from the open sea directly beneath you, the taste of Adriatic seafood on the plate in front of you, and the smell of salt and sea rock coming in on the splashing waves.

Located at Dubrovnik Palace Hotel, Maslina offers a twist on traditional, Dalmatian al fresco dining. It is nestled directly on the balmy beachfront and offers breathtaking views of the Adriatic and the nearby Elaphiti Islands.

**INFO****LOCATION**

Hotel Dubrovnik Palace  
Masarykov put 20, Dubrovnik

**STYLE TIP**

Seaside casual – summer dresses and sandals will do nicely.

**RESERVATIONS**

Please contact the Front Desk

**INSIDE TIP**

You may want to jump in the sea or the nearby pools after you’ve finished your meal. And you can!



## SPHERE RESTAURANT &amp; LOUNGE BAR

# A homage to Mediterranean dining

The views of Uvala Lapad promenade and the beach are sublime from the very large open terrace of Sphere Restaurant on the ground floor.



A generous buffet breakfast is served here every morning, and at night, an innovative dinner menu accompanied by twinkling sea and night-sky scenery.

The glamorous lounge with its ergonomic armchairs set beneath oversized moon-like light shades serves top-notch cocktails, a fine wine list and great coffee with fantastic sea views.

And is set to once again be one of the best places in Lapad Bay for cocktails at sunset.

**INFO****LOCATION**

Hotel Kompas Dubrovnik  
Kardinala Stepinca 21, Dubrovnik

**STYLE TIP**

Something cool and breezy; light summer dress by day, spiced up with a bag and a gentleman in your hand by night.

**RESERVATIONS**

Please contact the Front Desk

**INSIDE TIP**

Arrive before sunset and ask for a table right on the edge of the promenade to enjoy romantic views while the sun sets over the bay.

**Pssst....** Don't forget to order some dessert before you head off.

## SPINAKER

# Seafood on the pier

Seafood lovers shouldn't miss this one-of-a-kind restaurant. Perched above the platform beach with comfy chairs to sink into and admire the fabulous sea views and twinkling lights of Dubrovnik in the distance, this is the spot to spend laid back summer holiday nights with a bottle of wine.



A sublime seafood menu offers baby octopus, scampi, lobster, scallops, and tuna, together with the catch of the day, prepared exactly as you like it. At lunchtime, a special menu gives a simple, appealing introduction to traditional Dalmatian cooking.

Find yourself tucked away along the sea-shore surrounded by pine trees, right on the promenade, enjoying splendid views of Cavtat bay.

**INFO****LOCATION**

Hotel Croatia Cavtat  
Frankopanska 10, Cavtat

**STYLE TIP**

Wear white summer wraps to blend in – or vibrant-toned sarongs to stand out. Sunglasses are de rigueur.

**RESERVATIONS**

Please contact the Front Desk

**INSIDE TIP**

Choose a waterfront table and select your own fish right from the tank.



## THE GOLDEN ISLAND WITH A GUINNESS RECORD

# Šipan

Tired of the dusty sightseeing trail? Then hop on to a short ferry ride from the city and swap sophisticated Dubrovnik for the simple life on one of the Elafiti Islands. Welcome to the island of Šipan – a magical place with exciting history, legends and culture, and a paradise with stunning scenery, hidden coves, sparkling waters, and lots to explore!

With a surface of only 16,5 square kilometres, hilly Šipan is still the largest of the Elafiti and one of the least developed. There are about 450 permanent year-round inhabitants on the island, but do not be misguided; although it is only 17 km (11 miles) from Dubrovnik, this lovely island is probably the quietest and most unspoiled island in the Elafiti archipelago, graced by lush vegetation and architectural heritage dating back several centuries.

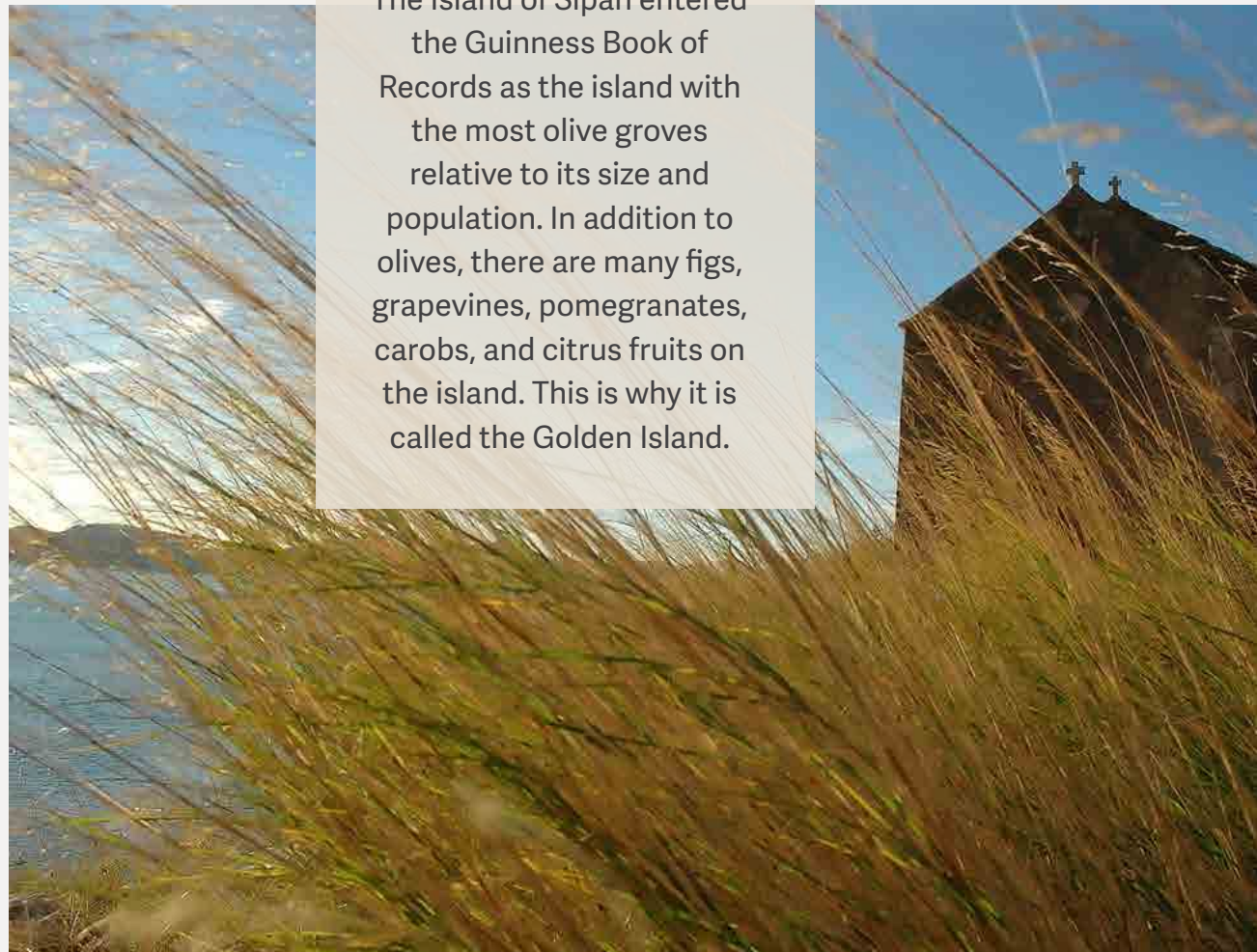
Šipan is the most fertile island in the archipelago. Covered by dense Mediterranean vegetation including fragrant myrtle, laurel, pine, thyme and rosemary, the primeval beauty of its luxuriant nature is its fertile field that stretches along the entire island connecting the two



In 2015, Šipan Island topped the list of 'twelve secret European islands for a secluded vacation' by US portal Huffington post.

## FUN FACT

The Island of Šipan entered the Guinness Book of Records as the island with the most olive groves relative to its size and population. In addition to olives, there are many figs, grapevines, pomegranates, carobs, and citrus fruits on the island. This is why it is called the Golden Island.



major settlements and fishing villages - Sudurađ on the East and Šipanska Luka (harbour) on the West.

The Šipan field is certainly the most fascinating part of the island which is really worth visiting. Abundant in rich soil and lots of sunshine, we recommend a delightful scenic ramble of some 5km through olive groves, vineyards, fig trees, orchards and pine-clad hills of Šipan. For sure you will be drawn by many hidden paths along the way so take that step and discover the hidden gems of this island.

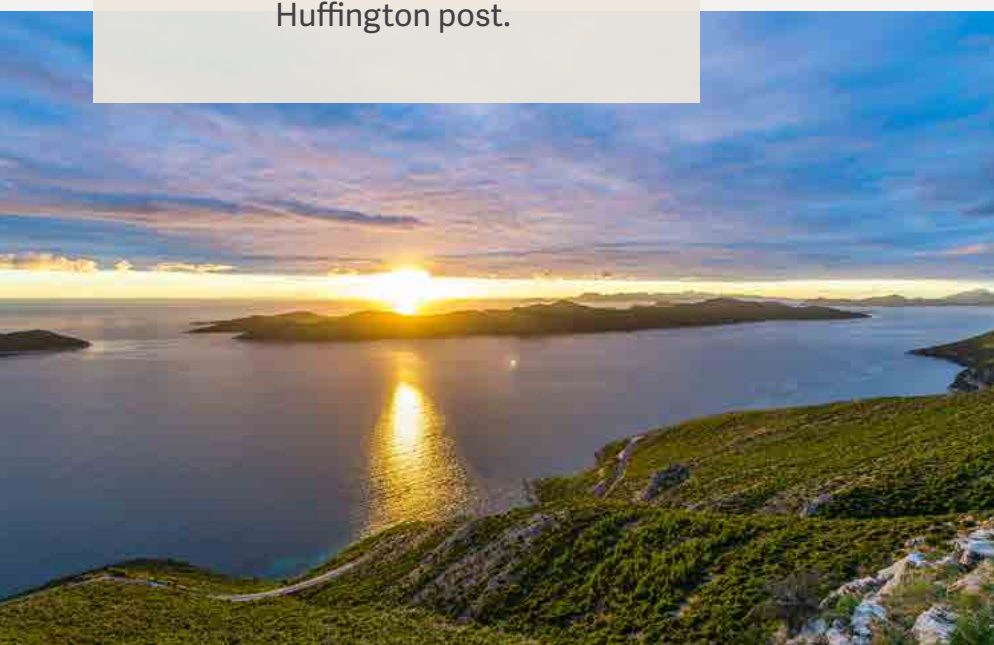
Šipanska Luka is an attractive little palm-fringed village that basks idly in the Adriatic sun. Thanks to its chilled-out atmosphere, lovely seafront and wonderful scenery, this port is a very special place. Feel free to explore among the old buildings, relax on the small pebble beach nestled at the end of the harbour, or search out your own olive tree for some shade and enjoy a swimming spot all to yourself on the opposite side of the bay.

## CULTURAL TREASURES

Interestingly, the island is home to many examples of Dubrovnik architecture: from a fortress and Early Christian chapels to the most representative summer residences of

maritime, merchant and aristocratic families of Dubrovnik. This well-preserved Mediterranean oasis was under the reign of Dubrovnik Republic from 1426 and used to be the fashionable out-of-town residence and place of leisure of the Dubrovnik aristocracy in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century.

You may get tired of seeing old mansions, houses and other buildings over time, (though we doubt it), but in Sudurađ, you can see the two most representative historical buildings. Sudurađ is a sleepy village stretched along the harbour, dominated by the Renaissance 16th century summer house Skočibuha. With two towers standing proudly among the ruins, this impressive palace is a protected Croatian cultural monument that is definitely worth a visit. Owned by the wealthy and famous ship-owning family Stjepović-Skočibuha from Dubrovnik, the palace was built on a former shipyard and is typical of the Dubrovnik rural architecture. Interestingly, today it is the only such preserved object in Croatia. It was built of stone from Korčula and has two towers on three floors that were used for defence against pirates. Today it is a completely restored and privately owned summer residence, open to tourists and visitors alike during the season. So, if you happen to be there, don't miss the opportunity to explore this one-of-a-kind historic architectural piece of art.





Better preserved is another 16<sup>th</sup> century building, St Mary's Church, out on its own a few kilometres from the village. The most important historical sights are the fortified church of the St. Holy Spirit dating from 1577 and the parish church which contains several 15<sup>th</sup> century paintings. For the more adventurous, we recommend a climb up to the highest point on the island at 243 metres called Velji Vrh, where you will find St. Peter's church - one of the oldest on the island.

Although there are no sandy beaches on the island, there are some lovely bays to stop for swimming so we are pretty sure you'll have no trouble finding a pleasant place to leap into the clear sea as well as to set foot on some excellent coastal paths worth exploring.

The island of Šipán is a perfect place for lovers of unspoiled beauty where you can only hear the sound of nature. It is a place to escape from everyday life, relax by the sound of waves and engage in a journey into the past, into some ancient, somewhat forgotten times, where you can learn about the former customs and lifestyle of the inhabitants of that time.

*So gather your thoughts, inhale with full lungs, cast away the stress... Welcome on the island of Šipán!*

#### HOW TO GET AROUND ŠIPAN

- To explore the island, you can easily rent a bike either from Šipán harbour or Suđurađ.
- Šipán is also known as a walkers' paradise, with almost every path following the sea, so if you prefer walking, the villages are 4.5km apart and the slightly hilly route will take you about 1 to 1.5 hour to walk across the entire island.
- There is also a local bus that runs between the two ports, timed according to the arrival and departure of the ferry.

#### GETTING THERE

Jadrolinija ferries run regularly from Dubrovnik's main port of Gruž to Šipán. It takes around 1 hour 30 minutes to get to Šipán. The frequency varies from one ferry a day during winter to four a day in summer. The exception is Sunday when the boat departs two times a day. There's also a daily car ferry from Dubrovnik to Suđurađ on Šipán island. In addition, the Nona Ana, a high-speed passenger catamaran, runs from Dubrovnik to Šipán once a day, seven days in the week.

#### INSIDE TIP

If you want to feel the true magic of the Elafiti islands and have a fantastic get away from your room, visit our ALS desk at the reception and book "Three island cruise" excursion of the Elafiti islands.

#### INTERESTING POINTS

According to legend, in 47 B. C. the battle between Caesar and Marcus Aurelius ended in a way that the victorious fleet escaped through the nearly imperceptible passage called Harpoti – a narrow sea channel between the island of Šipán and neighbouring Jakljan.

\*

Šipán is home to 42 Gothic-Renaissance villas, over 30 churches, many chapels and several monasteries; however, many of them are abandoned and dilapidated.

\*

The current name Šipán first appeared in documents dating from 1370.

\*

Remains of the Roman villa rusticae have been discovered in the Šipán harbour. According to legend, King René of Anjou found refuge on Šipán in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Among the ruins of his palace a stone coat of arms was found with the inscription 'Renatus rex justus'. The original is kept in London, while a copy is embedded in the façade of the family house Liban in Suđurađ.

\*

Šipán has the most plant species in the Elafiti island group, as many as 617. There are many rare and endangered plants, including coastal cyclamen, large wormwood, and Adriatic violet.

\*

Famous guests on Šipán include Francesca von Habsburg, Princess Caroline of Monaco, Pachtá III and Belgian king, Albert II with Queen Paola.

\*

# ŽUJA. YOU. AND NICE VIEW.



RAZMISLI  
KAD PIJEŠ, NI VOZI

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RULES!  
since 1892.



## RIVER LJUTA

# The Heart of Konavle



Located in the far Croatian south, spreading from the coastal town of Cavtat to the Montenegrin border, lays the beautiful valley of Konavle, also known as 'Provence of Dubrovnik region'. Located between the sea and sun-bleached mountains, its picturesque landscape with centuries-old trees and fertile valleys tells the story of life, culture, history and tradition.

Konavle carries with it the spirit of the civilizations that have left traces in our area since prehistoric times, through the Roman period, the Middle Ages, the time of the Dubrovnik Republic, up to more recent history.

For those curious enough to experience the centuries-old traditions of our ancestors and enjoy the spirit of times gone by in protected natural landscape, we recommend visiting the heart of the Konavle valley – the River Ljuta, an oasis of natural beauty and a true symbol of life in this beautiful valley. Since 1975, the spring and the course of the River Ljuta have been protected for their exceptionally valuable landscape characteristics.

The source of the River Ljuta is situated at the foot of a mostly rocky hill of some 100 meters in height and ranks among the most important karst springs. The area around the spring, as well as the upper course of the river, is overgrown with mature forest trees that constitute its natural environment and provide pleasant shade in the summer. The River Ljuta is the only permanent watercourse in Konavle. This rich source of water, combined with quality soil, ensures particularly favourable ecological conditions for the survival of plant and animal species which are completely different from those found in the surrounding neighbourhoods.

"Ljuta" means angry in Croatian and during the winter months, you can easily see where the river got its name. But during the summer months, Ljuta River is always at



least 5 degrees cooler which makes it even more desirable for those seeking escape from buzzing beaches and heat. Walking along the banks of the river in the thick shade of large laurel trees, you can hear the sound of running crystal clear water, home to trout fish and endemic species of frogs, a dozen species of dragonflies and over 50 species of butterflies. Here you can also explore the restored complex of water powered mills, which used to be extremely important for survival in these regions.

#### THE LEGEND OF LJUTA

Legend has it that the source of the River Ljuta was in Herzegovina, in the village of Zubci, where it was a place for important gatherings of shepherds who lived in the nearby hills. Their flocks grazed around the spring and quenched their thirst in it.

As the story goes, and as recorded in Konavle, there lived a woman, a mother, who had a daughter, and the daughter herself had a lamb as a pet. One day, the lamb fell into the spring. In an attempt to save him, the girl also fell into the river and drowned.

Devastated by sadness, the mother was completely lost. She left her estate and started begging but would accept only wool as a gift. She wandered for three years all around Herzegovina. Then one day she concluded that she had collected enough wool. She took it all and went to the source of the river with the intention of sealing it completely. She started filling the source with the wool and kept filling it until she finally sealed it. As the spring was sealed, the river sank underground, and then re-emerged in Konavle. And while the powerful river was making its way out above the village of Gruda, the legend has it that the hills trembled with "thunder and rumbling coming from the depths." The river was named Ljuta ("Angry") after its harsh "arrival" in Konavle.



### THE WATERMILLS ON RIVER LJUTA

The River Ljuta has shaped the way of life in Konavle throughout history. Ljuta was first mentioned as a settlement in 1285, and at the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, it became the political centre of Konavle. A system of mills and pillars was built on the river Ljuta in Konavle, consisting of eight flour mills, two oil mills and three pillars. When the Republic of Dubrovnik purchased Konavle, four mills



were found on the river upstream. After 1550, the whole system of "lower mills" was built, which has been preserved to this day.

The protected natural landscape around the river Ljuta includes the upper stream of the river as well as its source. The reconstructed watermills and stamp mill are extraordinary natural and historic rural sites. Since Konavle was also the main granary of the Dubrovnik Republic, the system of watermills on the river Ljuta at the time represented a major economic resource. The assembly of mills and columns at Ljuta was of great economic importance to both Konavle and the entire Dubrovnik Republic.

*Since 1969, all the mills on the River Ljuta have been protected as cultural monuments, and in 1975 the whole area was entered into the Register of Specially Protected Nature Facilities.*

### PRESERVATION

The Society of Friends of the Dubrovnik Antiquities, inspired by an initiative for the program of renovation of the old mills, was involved in the work. Seven mills were renovated in the period from 2005 to 2011, and the works included the reconstruction of the walls and roofs of the mills. The interiors were cleaned of vegetation and have been preserved with minor intervention. Mechanisms of the mills have not been restored, assuming that the owners themselves would do their share. The majority of the water supply systems of these mills have been

renovated and made functional as well. The remains of the Old Rustan Mill and the Old Taraš Mill have been preserved. Great attention was devoted to the environment, aiming to make it look as it once was when mills were approached by working animals.

Today we can proudly say that the historical significance of the whole complex has been achieved and that the renovated mills on Ljuta constitute a historic oasis of immense beauty.

### INSIDE TIP

### HOW TO FIND HEART OF KONAVLE

The best way to find the river is to pass through the village of Gruda and continue until you see a bridge. When you cross over the bridge, turn right by the remains of one of the many mills on the river. Many of these mills and viaducts have been repaired in the last few years, so today, they look impressive. You will see water running in all directions and they all lead up to the recently rebuilt mill which is now a small café -- the perfect place to enjoy a cold drink before continuing your walk.

Just behind the mill, there is a path that goes through the wooded riverbank --another perfect place to hide from the sun and summer temperatures since the tree cover offers comforting shade. The lovely path leads to a 400-year-old watermill, which is part of the restaurant complex. There are great views of the river and small but beautiful waterfalls.

### IF YOU ARE UP TO ESCAPING DUBROVNIK FOR A DAY...

#### PASJAČA BEACH

No music, no bars, no cars, no crowds, no phone or internet signal, just pristine waters and the open sea in front of you – sounds like a dream right? Or DiCaprio's movie description? And it is, but a hard reached one. Pasjača shyly emerges from the giant Konavle cliffs, close by to the village Popovići. It is not a natural beach; the sea word down the surplus of stone left from the tunnels dug in World War Two creating a surreally beautiful beach. Locals have not made it east to find, and it is definitely not easy to reach; think about thousand steps up and down on a steep cliffside, and no mojto waiting for you on either end. But once you do get there, as a reward the views are simply breathtaking. Its sunny all day long, with a little cave offering a much needed mid-day shade and only a few people to share it with. This piece of heaven is not available for long; unfortunately, the beach is disappearing because the sea is eroding the sand.

**DIRECTIONS** ..... don't think so. You have to be perusive enough to have the locals show you the way or persistant enough to google it yourself (remember no internet signal).



#### ČILIPĪ



If you want to explore the folklore and ethnography of Konavle, you must visit Čilipi, the cultural centre and one of the largest settlements in Konavle. For over forty years now, every Sunday morning at 11.15 am, from Easter to the end of October, traditional folk dancing is held in front of the St. Nicholas church. This is surely the best way to get to know the tradition and customs of this region.

We also recommend visiting the Konavle County House museum that contains the ethnographic treasures of Konavle, displayed in a perfectly restored typical Konavle house. The collection contains about 500 items including men's and women's folk costumes, embroidery, jewellery, arms, musical instruments and items used in the everyday life.

# Discover Konavle

#### FORT 'SOKOL' (HAWK FORT)

Dating from the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the impressive Sokol fort was built at the foot of the stone cliffs that rise above the village of Dunave in Konavle. It was the largest fort in the area, built to guard the border of the Dubrovnik Republic and defended the area from enemy invasions through the natural passage between the massive Snježnica and Bjelotina Mountains. Throughout the centuries it was constantly adapted and upgraded.



### INSIDE TIP

When you set foot on the last step and reach the top of the fort, you will be impressed by the breath-taking view of the entire Konavle region.



A SPECIAL SPOT BY THE OLD TOWN HARBOUR

# Porporela

At first glance, the pier in the old town harbour might seem just like a breakwater. Yet this historical spot has a special place, not only in the history of Dubrovnik but also in the hearts of its citizens. The most enchanted part of the City, the place where one was kissed for the first time, a favourite beach, a place where we had the most beautiful walks with that special someone... this pier, called Porporela, is all of that.

Porporela was built as early as the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century in a slightly different form than we see today. To be precise, in 1347, the city authorities decided to build a 51-meter-long breakwater on the western entrance to the city harbour to protect it from the turbulent sea. In the beginning, this was in fact, just a large pile of stones, and it was not until 1873 that a proper walled shore - Porporela - was built.

*Six years later, in a major storm, large waves knocked out a huge 3159 kilogram stone on Porporela, which was later on rebuilt into the breakwater and is still there today, marked and very much visited as a major attraction.*

The name Porporela is derived from the Latin word "purpura", which means a series of reefs, or a shore built from a series of reefs.



MUST VISIT

Listed as one of the ultimate love spots in Dubrovnik and yet hidden from inquisitive eyes, Porporela is one of the most romantic places within the Old Town, which couples and locals visit to enjoy amazing sunsets and sounds of waves splashing against the rocks.

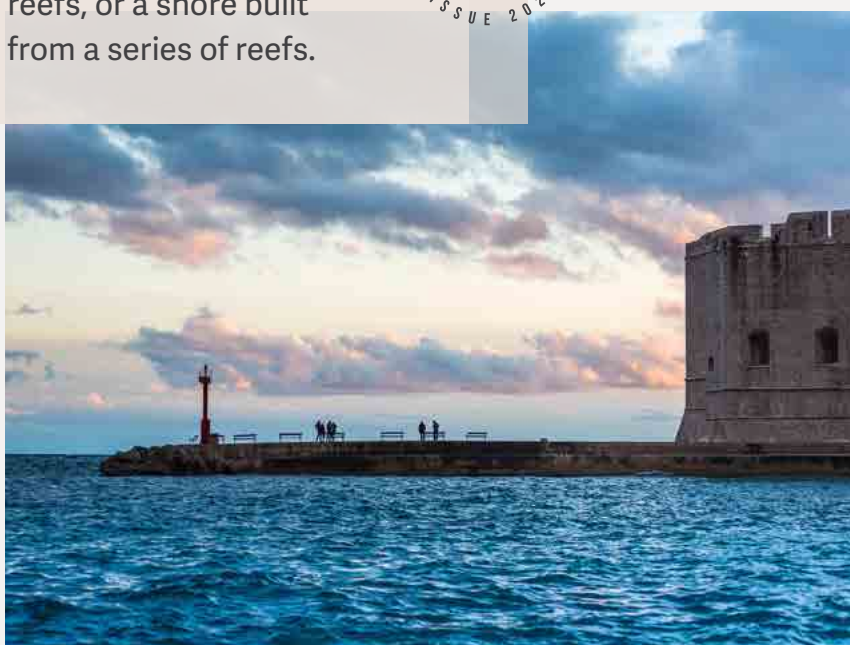
Nestled below the mighty fortress of St. John which protected the southern part of the City against attacks from the sea, Porporela, over time, became a favourite promenade and romantic meeting spot. The beautiful view of the magical city walls, Island of Lokrum, city harbour and Revelin Fortress have made it a favourite for those in love. From Porporela you can see the island of Lokrum, which, during clear and calm weather, seems so close, just within a hand reach and which you can literally reach by swimming.

Beneath the red light that separates the sea from the mainland with its strong blinks, the stone is polished by droplets of salt and the sea waves which, during the strong south wind, flow down the Porporela steps like waterfalls. On its very end stands, carved in stone, the wind rose (compass) with the inscribed words: courage, faith, knowledge.

Porporela is also a place where locals come in the summertime to swim and relax. However, if you are lucky, you will be able to spot some local swimmers who come here throughout the whole year. These are the bravest ones, who, even in the coldest months, decide to come to Porporela and jump into the sea.

Porporela is very popular during the annual festival called "Porporela Night", each June. It's an open event that offers a rich selection of food and drinks, good music, sweepstakes, and a lottery whose proceeds go to charity. The crown of the festivity is the traditional inauguration of the new-old Rector of the Republic of Porporela. This event shows how special Porporela is to the citizens of Dubrovnik.

In the middle of summer, Porporela also serves as the main venue of the Wild League, the famous amateur water polo tournament among teams representing different Dubrovnik beaches – also "a must" visit event.





## TOP CONSUMER BRANDS

# Quintessentially Croatian

If you are wondering what to take home as a souvenir or are intrigued by what Croatians genuinely enjoy... here is a brief review of the best known, most cherished and most talked about domestic brands that Croatians hold dear to their hearts.

01

## VEGETA

[veh-GEH-tah]



**WHAT IS IT?** A combination of spices and dried vegetables, Vegeta has served as an inspiration in Croatian kitchens for decades. Whatever you are preparing, whether it is meat, vegetables, stews, roasts, simple dishes or culinary delights – Vegeta will inspire your creativity.

**PRODUCER** PODRAVKA, Croatia

**THE STORY** In 1959, the world met a doll named Barbie for the first time at a New York toy fair; meanwhile, in Croatia, a different kind of star was born. The culinary beauty Vegeta would soon conquer the world and become a global brand. Several Croatian generations were raised by a TV culinary show displaying recipes, each ending with '...i jedna žlica Vegete' (...and 'one spoon of Vegeta'). It was a campaign that everyone aged 30+ remembers and a strategy many still use as an integral part of their cooking.

**TRADITIONAL USES** Prior to preparing meat or fish, just richly sprinkle them on both sides with Vegeta. Add Vegeta to cooked and stewed dishes (soups, sauces, rice, vegetables, etc.) 5 minutes before finishing. One spoon of Vegeta (3 g) is recommended for 250 ml (1 serving). Use it wisely whenever you want to wow your guests!

**FUN FACT** Is Vegeta healthy? – the original Vegeta contains no artificial flavours, no preservatives, no GMO, no animal ingredients and is gluten, lactose and fat-free, but it does contain monosodium glutamate (MSG) to which some people are sensitive or allergic. Vegeta Natur may be the perfect choice for them - it is an all-natural, gluten and lactose-free all-purpose seasoning blended from carefully selected vegetables and spices, containing no preservatives, no artificial flavour, no enhancers or MSG.

More info at [www.vegeta.com](http://www.vegeta.com)

02

## FRANCK COFFEE

[Frahnk]



**WHAT IS IT?** The best Croatian coffee brand - the secret of this most popular coffee is in the combination of the finest coffee and the most delicate process of grinding. Its rounded, chocolate taste and specific scent are well known to all coffee lovers. To preserve its amazing taste Franck has designed a special vacuum-packed "brick" that preserves the unique aroma and flavour of this coffee. This packaging is the origin of the popular nickname for Jubilarna - the "Brick".

**PRODUCER** FRANK, Croatia

**THE STORY** In 1868, Louisa May Alcott wrote the novel Little Women that became an instant success. That same year the Franck company was registered and started with chicory production. It would take many more years for the company to launch their first coffee-based product while the "brick" – the vacuum-packed coffee as we know it today - was introduced in 1982.

**TRADITIONAL USES** Bring water to boil in a traditional Turkish-style coffee pot. Add few small spoons of sugar (depending on the size of the pot :) and remove the coffee pot from the stove. Carefully add few spoons of Franck coffee - stir it constantly until the coffee dissolves in the water. Be attentive as the water level of the mixture will rise a bit. Then bring the pot back to the stove. In a couple of seconds, the coffee level will rise up, therefore watch carefully to remove it from the stove on time.

**FUN FACT** When visiting friends or relatives, on any occasion, bringing along a 'brick' of Franck coffee is a 'must' for Croatians. For true retro style, you can ask the sales clerk to wrap it in white paper for you.

More info at [www.franck.eu](http://www.franck.eu)

03

## MELEM

[MEH-lem]



**WHAT IS IT?** A Croatian miracle nourishing cream, used for everything – from dry lips to minor skin irritation, present in every household and each cosmetic bag. Melem is an original Croatian cream that nurtures skin with regenerating, moisturizing, soothing and protective effect. It is used for skin sensitive to the sun, air, heat, wind, moisture, detergent, insect bites, irritation during waxing, to prevent fungal infections and allergies, and more. The commercial says it best: "Melem is Melem; all others are just creams"

**PRODUCER** NEVA, Croatia

**THE STORY** In the year when the first Apple II computer went on sale in 1977, a Croatian innovator developed a cream based on four essential ingredients: lanolin, beeswax, Castor oil and Vaseline. Since then, Melem has become the 'it' cream of the nation for all kinds of skin conditions.

**TRADITIONAL USE** Melem is applied in very small quantities and in a very thin layer. For example, to protect both hands, it is enough to take a rice grain-sized amount of the product. Heat the required amount of the product between the palms of your hands because Melem disperses best at body temperature. A small tin of Melem (10 ml) is an irreplaceable part of any Croatian cosmetic bag, always at hand. When skin calls out for help, on the road, far from home, or simply while in town, reach for this miraculous tin.

**FUN FACT** Enjoy Croatian sun, but with caution – if your skin feels tight from all that sunlight, use Melem to swiftly soothe it.

More info at [www.melem.com](http://www.melem.com)



## 04

## BAJADERA

[bah-yah-DEH-rah]



**WHAT IS IT?** The queen of chocolates, a praline made from fine nougat blended with almonds and hazelnuts which gives it a unique, recognizable flavour. A perfect Croatian gift for any occasion!

**PRODUCER** KRAŠ, Croatia

**THE STORY** In the 1920s the first Mickey Mouse cartoon was shown, penicillin was discovered, and the first Oxford English Dictionary was published. Among other great things invented - like sliced bread or bubble gum - a forerunner of today's Bajadera was born. In 1923 the Kraš company started producing chocolate bars and assorted chocolates, which to the present day have remained the core part and the major pride of Kraš production. The final product, which maintained its original recipe and quality was produced in 1954 and has become the flagship brand of Kraš products.

**TRADITION** A box of Bajadera has been a staple gift when visiting friends and remains a definite go-to souvenir if you wish to bring someone a typical Croatian sweet. To impress, bring the largest box of Bajadera you can find in a store.

**FUN FACT** You'll get to taste them if you are staying in one of ALH hotels as "good night" sweets.

More info at [www.kras.hr](http://www.kras.hr)

## 05

## ČOKOLINO

[choh-koh-LEE-noh]



**WHAT IS IT?** Fine grain flakes with chocolate - a childhood starter and a favourite family meal in Croatia for generations. There are many flavours of flakes today, but the chocolate ones are the classic. Although intended for the youngest members of the family, Čokolino can never be outgrown.

**PRODUCER** PODRAVKA, Croatia

**THE STORY** In the year when The Beatles officially broke up in April of 1970, when Paul McCartney publicly stated that he is leaving the band as their final album "Let It Be" was released, a small factory in the town of Koprivnica started with the production of Čokolino. Back in 1972, the character of Lino the bear was placed on the packaging for the first time and became a trademark of the brand.

**TRADITIONAL USE** Eat it every morning for breakfast to fuel your energy or just your taste buds. Add 5 heaping tablespoons (30 g) of flakes into 200 ml of cooked milk (cooled to 50°C) and enjoy! The flakes are enriched with 7 vitamins (B1, B2, B6, C, E, niacin and Folic acid) therefore this is a highly nutritious meal.

**FUN FACT** Though there are precise instructions for how to prepare your bowl of Čokolino, everybody has their own preferences - still, if you prefer the mash to be denser, be careful as it gets really dry and sticky if you don't use enough milk.

More info at [www.kras.hr](http://www.kras.hr)

## 06

## LEDO

[LEH-doh]



**WHAT IS IT?** The best Croatian ice cream brand with a selection of choices for everybody.

**PRODUCER** LEDO, Croatia

**THE STORY** The world got seduced by Elizabeth Taylor's looks and performance in Cat on a Hot Tin Roof in 1958 and Croatians got drawn to the first ice cream produced at the Zagreb dairy plant - the ice cream stick Snjeguljica (Snow White), still one of the favourite ice creams for many Croatians. In 1965 the new factory called LEDO was put into operation.

**TRADITION** No Croatian summer is survivable without LEDO ice creams, and no Croatian summer lunch is imaginable without Ledo dessert. Regardless of your taste, Ledo offers plenty of choices for versatile tastes, numerous packaging options for numerous occasions. It'll take more than your vacation to taste them all and find your favourite...so, you'll need to come back for more.

**FUN FACT** If you want to talk big about Croatian authentic ice cream, go for Snjeguljica, KING classic or MACHO chocolate ice cream on a stick. For those preferring cones - LEDO Vanilla ice-cream is a classic.

More info at [www.ledo.hr](http://www.ledo.hr)

## 07

## JANA

[YAH-nah]



**WHAT IS IT?** A refreshing bottled spring water of Croatian origin.

**PRODUCER** JAMNICA, Croatia

**THE STORY** Jana came to life 7,000 years ago, when nature was completely pure. The spring is hidden at a depth of more than 2625 feet and preserves the pristine values of life. The source is in the picturesque village of Sveta Jana, at the periphery of the Žumberak Nature Park, in north-west Croatia where the main activities are wine growing and agriculture, in an industry-free and almost immaculate surrounding. Due to the depth of its source, Jana is exceptionally pure and rich in minerals.

**TRADITION** Luckily, in Croatia the tap water is still of high quality, but Jana is always a good alternative. Jana served in a glass bottle is quite an ornament on the table. It will complement any type of meal, whether an appetizer, main dish or dessert. Natural mineral water Jana perfectly cleanses your palate.

**FUN FACT** The silky taste of the natural mineral Jana additionally emphasizes the aroma of coffee and offers true refreshment and pleasure. So, like many Croatians, combine Jana with a cup of Franck espresso!

More info at [www.jana-water.com](http://www.jana-water.com)

## 08

## COCKTA

[KOK-tah]



**WHAT IS IT?** A refreshing soft drink with caramel and herb flavour referred to as "The Drink of Our Youth".

**PRODUCER** ATLANTIC GRUPA, Croatia

**THE STORY** Cockta was born in the year 1953 when Elizabeth II was crowned as queen of England on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. At the beginning of the 50s, the father of Cockta, Emerik Zelinka, came up with the recipe for Cockta while working at Slovenijavino. Experimenting with a range of flavours, his recipe included rosehip fruit, pleasantly sour vitamin C, a mix of herbs, pure spring water, and caramel. Cockta's name comes from "cocktail", referring to the mix of herbs that make up its signature flavour. Thus was born Yugoslavia's first soft drink.

**TRADITION** Cockta was an essential drink of any party in the 70s and 80s - whether a birthday party with friends, a family reunion or a rock concert. For the best experience and some retro vibe, drink it with a straw directly from a small glass bottle.

**FUN FACT** Since its emergence on the market in 1953, Cockta has remained the same; the secret is in the ingredients of the highest quality - herbs, rosehip, caramel, lemon, and pure spring water, with no phosphoric acid or caffeine.

More at [www.cockta.eu](http://www.cockta.eu)





# Bajadera®

WOVEN OF PLEASURE



The perfect combination of light and dark nougat makes Bajadera the premium Croatian souvenir.

Look for us at Kraš Bonbonnière at 1 Luža Street, Dubrovnik.

[www.kras.hr](http://www.kras.hr)



09

## ČARLI

[CHAR-lee]



**WHAT IS IT?** The first dishwashing liquid on the Croatian market, which has become a synonym for dishwashing liquids (when buying a washing liquid, Croatians refer to it as 'Čarli', regardless of the brand)

**PRODUCER** LABUD, Croatia

**THE STORY** 1974 was the year when Isabel Peron became the President of Argentina and the first female president in the world. It was also the year when Čarli Original - the first Croatian dishwashing liquid was created. The first Čarli was lemon-scented and was accompanied by the slogan: "Čar limuna" (The charm of lemon), from which the name Čar-li derives. With time, Čarli has practically become a synonym for washing up liquids.

**TRADITIONAL USE** Čarli's specially adapted formula facilitates cleaning and effectively removes residues of milk, baby food, porridge and juice with baby dishes, bottles, or cutlery, and is also suitable for washing children's toys. It is biologically degradable, pH neutral, free of allergens and leaves no scent after washing.

**FUN FACTS** Čarli makes miracles when it comes to removing grease stains from clothing. Take just a small amount of Čarli, rub in the stain and wait for 10 minutes. Rinse it up and dry. No stains, guaranteed...

More info at [www.labud.hr](http://www.labud.hr)

10

## KI-KI

[kee-kee]



**WHAT IS IT?** Fruit toffees that are an essential part of children's birthday parties or event gift bags in Croatia. The Ki-Ki clown logo is a trademark of the most popular candies in south-eastern Europe that many generations have grown up with.

**PRODUCER** KRAŠ, Croatia

**THE STORY** The story of Ki-Ki candies started with the legendary square of Ki-Ki fruit chew in 1927, in the same year when Gabriel García Márquez, a Colombian novelist, short-story writer, screenwriter and journalist was born.

**TRADITION** "No matter where, Ki-Ki is everywhere!" – is a slogan very dear to the heart of every Croatian with a sweet tooth. Colourful Ki-Ki candies are an important part of every genuine celebration table.

**FUN FACTS** If you are a fan of gummy candies, try Ki-Ki Gumioza gummy candies – these are free of fats, artificial flavours or colours, which makes it a safe and delicious choice, equally tasty, though less traditional.

More info at [www.kras.hr](http://www.kras.hr)

11

## OŽUJSKO PIVO

[OH-zhoo-ee-sko PEE-voh]

—  
nickname 'Žuja' [ZHOO-jah]

(Note: to say this properly, squish the syllables of the first word as closely together as possible. The second syllable, zhoo, starts with the sound at the end of the French word fromage.)



**WHAT IS IT?** Original Croatian lager beer, the most sought-after during games of national sport teams (football especially).

**PRODUCER** ZAGREBAČKA PIVOVARA, Croatia

**THE STORY** The Nutcracker ballet was first performed and became a Christmas favourite in 1892, the year when Croatia witnessed the birth of its favourite beer – Ožujsko, 'Žuja'. The beer got its name after the month of March ('ožujak' in Croatian), as this was traditionally the month of the year when the best lager beer was produced. Also, this is the last winter month in which the beer could be cooled naturally. A temperature of 5 degrees is optimal for drinking Žuja.

**TRADITION** Žuja is the heart of every Croatian sport match, concert and team. We drink it with friends, families or by ourselves, though the essence of Žuja is sharing the best times and a favourite drink with loved ones.

Beer lovers always have supplies of their favourite drink, but few know what factors affect the preservation of its quality. Like everything in brewing, preserving beer has its rules, so we bring you a couple of tips on preservation and consumption:

**POSITION** – Keep it in an upright position, preferably in your hand!

**TEMPERATURE** – as light and heat are the biggest enemies of beer, it is best to store beer in a cool place, out of range of heat sources. If these conditions cannot be met, drink Žuja immediately!

**LIGHT** – beer does not like light because it can change its taste, so beer bottles are darker in colour. To preserve the character of the beer, store it in a space with no light source, such as a cellar or refrigerator.

**EXPIRATION DATE** – Žuja can be safely consumed within one year of bottling. Once the beer is open, it is recommended that you drink it immediately as it begins to evaporate or lose its inherent bubbles as soon as it is opened.

**FUN FACTS** 30 bottles of beer – by the time you read this sentence to the end, 30 bottles of Ožujsko beer will have been drunk in Croatia. Ožujsko beer is the only beer with the nickname 'Žuja' – it is because we call acquaintances by name and only friends by the nickname.

More info at [www.ozujsko.com](http://www.ozujsko.com)

12

## ČAJNA

[CHAI-nah]

**WHAT IS IT?** The most popular winter salami in the region.

**PRODUCER** GAVRILOVIĆ, Croatia

**THE STORY** 1883 is the year when Antoni Gaudí began to work on the Sagrada Família Cathedral in Barcelona, and also the year when the masters of Italy and Petrinja invested their knowledge and skills in creating a new salami. They never dreamed that they were on the threshold of a great discovery - Gavrilović's Winter Salami! Namely, all salamis "got spoiled" during the ageing process (3 months) and were given a coat of white noble mould, by which Gavrilović is known as the Winter Salamis.

**TRADITIONAL USE** Simply slice the sausage as thin as you can (preferably around 1 mm) and pair it with one of Croatia's fine cheeses and homemade bread. For red wine lovers, we suggest pairing the salami with Merlot or Cabernet Sauvignon. Those who prefer white wines can choose a glass of Chardonnay, Pinot Grigio or even a sparkling wine to match the taste.

**FUN FACTS** 'Čajna' got its name after 'čaj' ('tea' in Croatia) because small bites topped with Gavrilović sausage were served at tea time.

More info at [www.gavrilovic.hr](http://www.gavrilovic.hr)

13

## CEDEVITA

[tzeh-deh-VEE-tah]



**WHAT IS IT?** A granulated drink mix with a daily dose of 9 vitamins, a synonym for a refreshing drink, favoured by all generations.

**PRODUCER** ATLANTIC GRUPA, Croatia

**THE STORY** In the same year that Neil Armstrong set foot on the Moon - 1969, the geniuses from the PLIVA pharmaceutical company invented an instant drink with 9 vitamins and called it - CedeVita. It was a small step for them, but a giant leap for all vitamin drink lovers! Lemon and orange are the classic flavours, but you can also find some new varieties on the market shelf.

**TRADITIONAL USES** CedeVita is prepared just before consumption by dissolving the granules in a glass of water, thus offering a quick, simple and sweet refreshment. There are instructions on how many granules to put in a glass, but it is up to you actually - for a stronger taste, put an extra spoon.

**FUN FACT** The utmost fans eat it with a spoon! Shhhh.

More info at [www.cedevita.com](http://www.cedevita.com)



## 14

## MIKADO

[mee-KAH-doh]



**WHAT IS IT?** A chocolate bar with puffed rice - a good memory of our childhoods and our children's childhood, a part of our daily life, our family member. This product is a Croatian invention indeed!

**PRODUCER** ZVEČEVO, Croatia

**THE STORY** Mikado has been a supreme world ruler since 1964! Zorba the Greek, Lord of the Flies and Goldfinger were only a few of the most recognized movies released the same year that the first Mikado chocolate was created.

**TRADITION** Only the finest raw materials (cocoa, milk) are used to make this chocolate which also meets the high criteria of nutritional values (carbohydrates, proteins, minerals and vitamins). Because of the puffed rice added to the chocolate, Mikado chocolate with rice also provides good dietary qualities, which makes it nutritiously desirable and useful! When it comes to durability, it melts fast, so make sure to eat it quickly...

**FUN FACTS** Did you know that Mikado, chocolate with puffed rice made by the Croatian company Zvečevo, was the first in the world to create the seemingly completely illogical combination of chocolate and rice? No, it was not the meticulous Swiss, nor their Austrian neighbours; The Croats were the first to dip rice into this magical, sweet, dark brown mixture.

More info at [www.zvecevo.hr](http://www.zvecevo.hr)

## 15

## ŽIVOTINJSKO CARSTVO

[zhee-VOH-teen-skoh TZAR-stvoh]

(en. Animal Kingdom)

a super challenge to pronounce for native English speakers! (Note: the very first sound in the syllable "zhee" is pronounced like the end of the French word fromage.)

**WHAT IS IT?** The thinnest and best children's milk chocolate, which comes with a fun collectable animal sticker in each package. Its unrivalled popularity in cheering the youngest with its stickers and albums has been educating young Croatians and "feeding" their love for the animals for over 70 years. For many, the first associations with the word "Životinjsko carstvo" (Animal Kingdom) are childhood, the curious feeling of opening the package, the eager anticipation of new album stickers to be used (if new) or exchanged (if duplicate) during the afternoon games with friends.

**PRODUCER** KRAŠ, Croatia

**THE STORY** While the world faced the birth of NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) in the 1950s, Croatia saw the start of the production of one of the oldest products in the children's assortment - Životinjsko carstvo (Animal Kingdom) chocolate bars, though a forerunner of the chocolate was produced for the first time as early as in 1938 by Union factory in Zagreb. For more than 80 years

the Animal Kingdom has been satisfying kids' curiosity and educating them while treating them with just the right amount of sweet indulgence and chocolate taste as remembered by many generations.

**TRADITION** Animal Kingdom chocolate is the thinnest milk chocolate, and its shape and the genuine taste of real milk chocolate make it perfect for kids' sweet moments. Besides the chocolate, each chocolate wrapper contains an animal sticker. The stickers are collected in an Animal Kingdom Collectible Sticker Book that is, in fact, children's animal encyclopaedia, and the Kraš company offers a bountiful bag of sweet treats for a sticker album completed.

**FUN FACTS** Grandparents are still passing their cherished albums to their grandkids. Some adults have been collecting these stickers for most of their lives...if you want to cheer up your Croatian friend or a host, hand them this sweet gift as a sign of your affection or appreciation.

More info at [www.kras.hr](http://www.kras.hr)

## 16

## STARTAS

[STAR-tahs]



**WHAT IS IT?** Colourfully designed sneakers created for free-spirited men and women, who refuse to align themselves with contemporary social trends. Directly inspired by Balkan pop culture, Startas is not afraid of breaking fashion codes by designing colourful, trendy models with a removable bowtie. Therefore, the Startas are known as the first revolutionary pop sneaker.

**PRODUCER** BOROVO, Croatia

**THE STORY** Though the Borovo shoe factory has been producing shoes since 1931 in the small town of Borovo in Northwest Croatia, the brand Startas was born in 1976, thanks to the new techniques of rubber vulcanization invented in the '70s. Startas shoes were as playful and different as the artists of pop culture these years - Diana Ross, Paul Simon, Elton John, Rod Stewart, Queen or ABBA. Historically designed for table tennis players, the little canvas shoes quickly became iconic in the sports world and a fashion must-have in the former Yugoslavia. In 1987, the brand was the official sponsor of the University Olympics Games of Zagreb, in which 4000 athletes from more than 120 countries took part. Located in Vukovar, a Croatian city that suffered badly during the Croatian War for Independence in the early 1990s, the Startas factory survived the violence of this period.

**TRADITION** After nearly 20 years of falling into obscurity, Startas has re-emerged from the past thanks to new designs by Mauro Massarotto. It is yet to be discovered what kind of tradition these lovely sneakers will set for future generations...

**FUN FACTS** Did you know that the brand Startas was directly inspired by the Non-Aligned Nations Movement? The brand is universal and stands for peace among nations. Those who wear Startas sneakers know that they are part of a story of love and friendship.

More info at [www.startas-shoes.com](http://www.startas-shoes.com)

## 17

## BRONHI

[BRON-hee]



**WHAT IS IT?** Toffee candies with herbal extracts that have been around for nearly 90 years and have a special place in our memories. Thanks to liquorice and anise herbs, Bronhi has a beneficial effect on the airways while simultaneously providing refreshment and a short break from the hustle and bustle of daily life.

**PRODUCER** KRAŠ, Croatia

**THE STORY** Since the 1930s, Bronhi Original toffees have been manufactured according to an original recipe. In the years of the worldwide Great Depression, a small factory in Zagreb produced these miracle candies. Bronhi brand has been extended from time to time to include new candies, all having in common functionality and a burst of refreshment. If you ask any local, there is only one true Bronhi - Bronhi Original.

**TRADITION** Watch out - as tasty as they are, these candies can become quite a challenge to eat. They require patience. Bronhis can get really sticky and very hard on the teeth - so, don't chew them, but wait until they melt. That's how we eat them... patiently.

**FUN FACT** For instant fresh breath, one Bronhi might be a perfect last-minute solution. Some will even suggest it for aiding mild cough problems.

More info at [www.kras.hr](http://www.kras.hr)

If you crave for more Croatian delights, you'll surely not be wrong with these:

**PEZ** - colourful fruit candies (since 1927)

**505 SA CRTOM (505 WITH LINE)** - hard fruit candies with a unique dark line around them (since 1935)

**DOMAĆICA** - chocolate-coated tea biscuits (since 1957)

**TORTICA** - a wafer with chocolate cream filling and covered with dark chocolate (since 1970)

**KVIKI GRIC** - a crunchy, salty snack with cumin and rosemary extract (since 1975)

**KRAŠ EXPRESS** - a tasty cocoa beverage packed in a train-chimney-shaped jar (since 1978)

## ON THE WATCH...

**SHERIFF & CHERRY**

**RIMAC** [REE-matz]

**PHOTOMATH APP**

...to be continued in the next edition...



## HOTEL INFORMATION

# Adriatic Luxury Hotels

## DREAM COLLECTION

**HOTEL EXCELSIOR DUBROVNIK**

Dubrovnik's iconic Hotel Excelsior is one of the finest luxury five-star hotels in the Mediterranean. Overlooking the island of Lokrum and the Old Town of Dubrovnik, the hotel offers an outstanding location, understated elegance, and incomparable charm. Enjoying a rich 100-plus year history, the Hotel Excelsior has a long-standing reputation and loyal client base, having played host to some of the world's greatest performers and royalty.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 139 rooms and 19 suites

**DINING:** three restaurants and one bar

**CONFERENCE FACILITIES:** six multifunctional rooms for up to 650 people

**WELLNESS AND RECREATION:** Energy Clinic spa and beauty centre; beach

**HOTEL BELLEVUE DUBROVNIK**

Completely refurbished and opened in Spring 2019, Hotel Bellevue re-emerged as an icon of private boutique luxury and design. It prides itself on its chic style, attracting a younger, funkier, and more design-savvy clientele to the city of Dubrovnik. Perched 30m above the picturesque Miramare Bay, nestled in a sandy cove overlooking the Adriatic Sea, the Hotel Bellevue sets a new standard for Croatian properties, attracting the most discerning and affluent visitors.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 77 rooms and 14 suites

**DINING:** two restaurants and two bars

**CONFERENCE FACILITIES:** two meeting rooms for up to 140 people

**WELLNESS AND RECREATION:** Energy Clinic spa and beauty centre; pebble beach

**VILLA ORSULA DUBROVNIK**

This boutique hotel is just a five-minute stroll from the unforgettable UNESCO-protected Dubrovnik Old Town. Its prestigious seafront location offers spectacular sea views, while the surrounding gardens offer exclusive privacy in a secluded corner of Dubrovnik. Built in the 1930s, Villa Orsula's gracious Oriental style architecture creates an atmosphere of exotic luxury.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 11 rooms and 2 suites

**DINING:** Victoria Restaurant and Lounge Bar

**VILLA AGAVE**

Recognised as the best way to experience the ancient and luxurious city of Dubrovnik, Villa Agave is one of the most exclusive villas on the Mediterranean. With an atmosphere of relaxation, comfort, and informality, Villa Agave is a three-bedroom, 270 m<sup>2</sup> summer house overlooking the Adriatic Sea. Surrounded by five terraces, Villa Agave offers exceptional privacy and breathtaking views across the bay of the Old Town of Dubrovnik and the Island of Lokrum.

**VILLA SHEHEREZADE**

Vila Sheherezade was built in the early 1920s. Its outstanding white stone architecture makes it one of Dubrovnik's protected historic sites. The legend behind this marvelous villa, about a great love manifested in the form of a monument, resembles the story of the Taj Mahal. This architectural masterpiece, surrounded by colourful gardens of palm and cypress trees includes over 4,200 m<sup>2</sup> of exuberant greenery, creating a charming and unique atmosphere.

## ESCAPE COLLECTION

**GRAND VILLA ARGENTINA**

Just minutes from the gates of Dubrovnik's Old Town, Villa Argentina was built as a gilded private residence at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and was converted into a five-star hotel complex in the 1950s. Overlooking the blue Adriatic Sea and the nearby island of Lokrum, the hotel is just a short walk from the Old Town of Dubrovnik, providing the ideal starting point for exploring this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 127 rooms and 4 suites

**DINING:** two restaurants and three bars

**CONFERENCE FACILITIES:** three meeting rooms for up to 200 people

**WELLNESS AND RECREATION:** Energy Clinic spa and beauty centre, outdoor swimming pool; deck beach

**HOTEL DUBROVNIK PALACE**

Hotel Dubrovnik Palace, a luxury five-star resort is revered for its multi-faceted approach to lavish holiday escapes. It offers a full range of activities and facilities for couples and business travellers. Celebrated as Europe's finest five-star resort for 2011, the Hotel Dubrovnik Palace was also the proud winner of two World Travel Awards for two consecutive years – Croatia's Leading Hotel and Croatia's Leading Spa Resort. Its wellness and spa centre, conference rooms, superb gastronomy, and spectacular terraces with breathtaking sea views make it the first choice for a memorable, luxurious stay.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 271 rooms and 37 suites

**DINING:** four restaurants and three bars

**CONFERENCE FACILITIES:** eleven conference and meeting rooms for up to 750 people

**WELLNESS AND RECREATION:** Energy Clinic spa and beauty centre, three outdoor swimming pools, PADI diving centre, tennis court, beach, jogging paths and walking routes.

**HOTEL CROATIA CAVTAT**

Located a pleasant 20-minute drive from historic Old Town Dubrovnik, near the picturesque village of Cavtat, Hotel Croatia Cavtat is the leading 5-star resort and conference hotel on the southern Adriatic. Built to demanding specifications allowing Hotel Croatia to blend seamlessly with its natural surroundings, it is the ideal destination for relaxation or business. The hotel serves as a convenient base for exploring Dubrovnik, the crown jewel of the Adriatic.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 480 rooms and 7 suites

**DINING:** four restaurants, four bars, night club

**CONFERENCE FACILITIES:** ten conference and meeting rooms for up to 850 people

**WELLNESS AND RECREATION:** Energy Clinic wellness and spa centre, beach, outdoor swimming pool

**HOTEL KOMPAS DUBROVNIK**

All new 4-star hotel opened in August 2015, the charming Kompas is located in the most peaceful and calm neighbourhood of Dubrovnik, the beautiful Lapad Bay. Less than 4 km from the Old Town city centre - away from summer crowds, Hotel Kompas enjoys one of the best positions in Dubrovnik. Thanks to its proximity to the sea and the beach, its ideal location in a quiet area, hotel Kompas has become one of the most popular places to spend summer holidays in Dubrovnik.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 170 rooms and 3 suites

**DINING:** Sphere Restaurant & Lounge Bar and Zenith bar

**CONFERENCE FACILITIES:** conference room for up to 400 people

**WELLNESS AND RECREATION:** Energy Clinic wellness and spa centre, outdoor and indoor swimming pool

**VILLA GLAVIĆ DUBROVNIK**

Villa Glavić is a historic three-storey building, with 21 rooms, offering complete privacy and beautiful sea views. The location of the hotel makes it convenient for trips into Dubrovnik, to learn of its colourful history, to dine in its many restaurants or to shop in the boutiques of the walled city.

## UNWIND COLLECTION

**HOTEL ODISEJ MLJET**

Hotel Odisej is a three-star hotel in the heart of the Mljet National Park, on the Island of Mljet. It is a perfect place for nature enthusiasts, history buffs; those who like to explore the myths of ancient times or scuba diving fans. If you are looking for a secluded island retreat, where time stands still, the island of Mljet makes a perfect choice.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 153 rooms and two suites

**DINING:** two restaurants and two bars

**WELLNESS AND RECREATION:** Children's swimming pool; fitness studio; hiking and biking trails; diving centre

**HOTEL SUPETAR CAVTAT**

Hotel Supetar is a comfortable 3-star hotel ideally situated for a family holiday in the centre of the charming historic town of Cavtat, a typical Dalmatian seaside town with harmonious architecture. The hotel is just steps away from the beach and offers guests a more intimate setting to enjoy their Adriatic vacation. Old Town Dubrovnik is a pleasant 20-minute drive away.

**ACCOMMODATION:** 28 rooms

**DINING:** restaurant and bar





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**Hotel Kompas**  
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**Hotel Dubrovnik Palace**  
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**Hotel Excelsior**  
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**Villa Agave**  
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**Villa Sheherezade**  
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