

# Grand Montenegro Tour

Lovcen NP – Skadar Lake – Durmitor – Kotor Bay

7 nights / 8 days tour



*If you are arriving in Budva a few days prior to the tour departure, you can book additional nights with us, at the same hotel.*

## Day 1 Arriving to Montenegro

Upon arrival at the airport of your choice, an enjoyable ride with staggering viewpoints waits for you. Accompanied by your guide, you will get the first glimpse at this Mediterranean country during a scenic ride to your hotel. The intervening landscapes of old times' architecture and contemporary lifestyle will introduce you to the diversity of this small, yet imposing country.

**Overnight: Budva or Boka Bay**



## Day 2 Traditional Wine Tasting – Virpazar - NP Skadar Lake with Boat Ride – Besac Fortress

Breakfast. For the first full day here, we have prepared an experience to remember during which you will have the opportunity to taste some of the finest wines of Montenegro and enjoy the picturesque nature of Skadar Lake National Park. First, we will visit a family-owned winery in the heart of the Montenegrin signature wine region of Crmnica. This adventure will be rounded off by enjoying a wine tasting and comparing different types of wine aged in large barrels, and benefitting from the expertise and knowledge of the resident winemaker.

The fishing village of Virpazar is a departure point for a boat ride on Skadar Lake. As you glide through the mirroring water, the numerous lake's attractions reveal extraordinary birds, the water lilies in full bloom, and wild, secluded beaches. Skadar Lake has an area ranging from 370 to 530 square kilometers, depending on the water level, and it is the biggest lake in the Balkans.

An opportunity to reflect on the day behind will be given to you at the recently reconstructed 15th-century fortress. The stunning ambiance of Besac Fortress is the

place where you can learn more about the history of this region and have a tasty lunch break. Here, your wine journey continues, as you can also enjoy a selection of wines produced in this region with a unique microclimate.

On our way back to the hotel, we will make a short stop above the charming St. Stefan islet, where you will have the opportunity to take the best photo of your stay in Montenegro. **Overnight: Budva or Boka Bay.**



## Day 3 NP Lovćen Mountain: Gastronomy, History & Culture

After breakfast, we are going up to the Lovćen massif area. Right there, high above and behind those hills, Montenegrin history begins and ends in the very same place. Just getting there is a unique adventure: the stunning view of the Boka Bay will leave you in awe, while driving up the old, Austro-Hungarian 25-serpentine-road. First stop for the day is Njeguši, the village known as the birth place of the royal dynasty Petrović and a 'guardian' of the authentic architecture and cuisine in the region. Njeguški sir and pršut (cheese and prosciutto of Njeguši), a real treat for true foodies, are both genuine contributions to Montenegrin cuisine, produced only in this area, following the traditional recipe for smoking and curing meat.



Tasting the most famous specialties of the region makes us ready for one more breath-taking peak.



The National Park Lovćen encompasses the central and the highest part of the Lovćen massif, covering an area of 6.400 hectares. On top of one of the mountain's two imposing peaks, lies a magnificent mausoleum – the tomb of Montenegro's greatest person in history: Petar II Petrović Njegoš. It takes 461 steps to climb to reach but it is a steep journey well worth the effort. At the very top, you will be rewarded with a spectacular viewpoint from the world's highest mausoleum.



Finally, the trip continues to the Old Royal Town of Cetinje, in which you will grasp more about the Petrović Njegoš dynasty and the history of our country.

Use free evening and try out some of the finest Montenegrin wines, made from the authentic red grape variety Vranac, as well as some organic honey, figs, and a homemade spirit called rakija. It is highly recommended to enjoy these delicacies at the konoba - a small, traditional restaurants owned by local families, a true essence of Montenegrin's warm hospitality and friendship. **Overnight: Budva or Boka Bay.**

#### Day 4 Northern Montenegro Essence – Ostrog Monastery & NP Durmitor with Black Lake

Breakfast. This day is devoted to tranquility and nature. The first part of the day will take you to Ostrog Monastery, situated in a cliff face, 900 meters above the Zeta River valley.



The entire ambience is breath taking and filled with serenity. The Monastery is dedicated to Saint Vasilije of Ostrog, and is a worldwide known pilgrimage site for Orthodox Christians.

Our next stop is located in the northwest of Montenegro. UNESCO's protected National Park Durmitor is adorned with 48 peaks, more than 2.000 meters high. Also, there are 18 glacial lakes above at 1.400 meters altitude called "Mountain Eyes" and five spectacular canyons, best presented with the deepest canyon in Europe - the Tara River Canyon. The park is home to 1.325 species of flora, including one of the last virgin black pine forests in Europe. Some of the incredible animals that can be found on this mountain are the brown bear, wild cat and chamois.

Whether you are exploring Durmitor through hiking or sightseeing from a vehicle, you will have the exceptional opportunity to discover authentic mountain villages whose inhabitants live similarly as to their ancestors did hundreds of years ago. Away from the modern influences of today's world, you will be transported back in time to traditional houses, old customs, simple everyday activities and healthy nutrition.

This gourmet-hiking adventure is an ideal opportunity to chat with the locals, mainly shepherds and herdsmen, try the homemade, authentic food and to get to know the resilient mentality of people who have spent their entire life surviving, but also indulging in nature.



After visiting one of the most prominent viewpoint named Sedlo, and tasting traditional snacks, you will have the opportunity to hike around the biggest and most incredible lake on Durmitor, called the Black Lake. Surrounded by the magnificent scenery and its giant peak Meded ("Bear") guarding the lake, the Black Lake is divided into the Great and the Small Lake, connected by a small strait of water that dries up in the summer. The lake is filled with numerous mountain streams, and it truly represents the "Wild beauty" of Montenegro at its best.

The next stop is the famous Tara Bridge over Tara River Canyon, with its astounding depth of 1.300 m deep, making it the grandest canyon in Europe and the second



deepest globally, right after the Colorado River in the USA. Since 1977, the canyon has been under the protection of UNESCO, and it is in the category of 25 of the most important world natural heritages. **Overnight: Žabljak.**

## Day 5

### UNESCO's NP Durmitor: Leisure Day or Optional Experiences

Breakfast. Leisure Day. Create your own plan for the day. Use the opportunity to gather some energy for the days to follow, or book one of the optional experiences:

**OPTIONAL 1: Nevidio Canyoning.** The unique beauty of Durmitor National Park has been fascinating the worldwide travellers for years. Now, you have the chance to come and explore the last conquered canyon in Europe, with its waterfalls and a gallery of impressive sculptures carved out by the pure power of the Komarnica River. This fun and challenging canyon is a starting point for those adventure enthusiasts who are not yet sure which first step to take on their adrenaline-pumping journey, as you need no previous climbing experience to enjoy this 3km long canyoning tour. After spending a couple of hours exploring this beautiful gorge, you will see stunning sunlight marking the end of the tour, as you climb out of the canyon. You have started your day with a great adventure, and now you can enjoy a well-deserved meal to gain back the energy.



**OPTIONAL 2: Tara River Rafting.** You have certainly heard that Tara River goes by the name "Tear of Europe" due to its purity. You can drink water from its stream anywhere you catch it, in every part of its flow.

Tara River Canyon is 1.300 m deep, which makes it the greatest canyon in Europe and the second deepest in the world, right after the Colorado River in the USA. Since 1977, the canyon is under the protection of UNESCO, and it is in the category of 25 of the most important world natural heritages. Experience a rafting adventure full of joy, excitement and exhilaration on a river in emerald green and turquoise colour variations

surrounded by flourishing and vibrant nature. Extremely skilled and trained guides will be there for you as a part of your team, every step of the way for the 12 km ride that stretches from Montenegro to Bosnia and Herzegovina. **Overnight: Žabljak.**



## Day 6

### The Bay of Kotor: Perast – Boat Ride to The Our Lady of The Rocks Isle – UNESCO'S City of Kotor

Breakfast. We are going back to the coast, to one of the most beautiful parts of Montenegro. This day is devoted to the Bay of Kotor with its unique scenery.

The first stop is at the town of Perast, a little settlement baroque in style, where a relaxing boat ride to the picturesque island of Our Lady of the Rocks starts. This artificial islet is home to a church known for its mystifying story and valuable artifacts like paintings by local artist, votive silver tablets and a hair-made tapestry.

After short boat tour, marvellous Kotor kept in the mediaeval wall-frame is welcoming us. A walking tour though the capital of Europe's southernmost bay shows multicultural richness through churches of Saint Nicholas and Saint Luka, the Cathedral of Saint Tryphon and all the glory of this UNESCO site. Use your free time to continue wandering around the stone paved town, or enjoy offer of fish restaurant at one of romantic squares.

**Overnight: Boka Bay.**



## Day 7

### Boka Bay: Leisure Day or Optional Experiences

Breakfast. Leisure Day. Create your own plan for the day, enjoy the beautiful scenery of a coastal town, spend the day at the beach, or book one of the Optional experiences:

**OPTIONAL 1: Speedboat tour – Blue cave with swimming break.** This private tour with a high-class speedboat will reveal to you the most beautiful places located at the entrance to Boka Bay. Our professional skipper-guide will let you know everything about Mamula and Arza forts, Miriste lagoon, and the charming village of Rose. Besides swimming in the amazing Blue cave and snorkeling near Zanjic island, you will enjoy the sounds and smells of nature, as well as the taste of homemade wine made especially for you.



**OPTIONAL 2: Feel & Taste Luštica tour.** For this tour, we will also use a speedboat to get to the location of the day – Klinci Village Resort, a family-owned and operated estate, settled in Luštica Bay. It brings you an exquisite opportunity to feel the spirit and explore the rich heritage of the authentic household, taste the organic extra virgin olive oil of premium quality, try local food and simply enjoy the ambiance of one of Montenegro's most famed olive growing areas. **Overnight: Boka Bay.**



## Day 8

### Departure day

Breakfast and hotel check-out. As most of our clients decide to extend their trip within their own organisation, transfer to the airport at the end of the tour is not included in the overall price. Any guests who would like **Balkan&more** to organise a departure transfer on their behalf are welcome to contact us. End of services.

*Wishing for MORE TIME IN MONTENEGRO? If you would like to spend a few more days in the Capital of Montenegrin tourism or in the charming Boka Bay, you can book additional nights with us, at the same hotel, for a surcharge of €50 reg.s / €80 high.s (Standard package) or €70 reg.s/ €115 high.s (Superior package). Prices are per person, per night, in a double room.*

## GUARANTEED DEPARTURES SEASON 2023.

MAR	25 <sup>th</sup>			
APR	1 <sup>st</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	29 <sup>th</sup>
MAY	13 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>		
JUN	3 <sup>rd</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>		
JUL	1 <sup>st</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>		
AUG	19 <sup>th</sup>			
SEP	2 <sup>nd</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>
OCT	Sep 30 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>		
*High season dates				

### STANDARD PACKAGE (per person, in double room):

#### Regular season

#### High season

€1.319

€1.619

### SUPERIOR PACKAGE (per person, in double room):

#### Regular season

#### High season

€1.489

€1.979

### SUPPLEMENTS, REDUCTIONS // STANDARD PACKAGE

#### Regular season

#### High season

1/1 Room Supplement (on basic price)

€340 reg.s

€530 high.s

1/3 Room Reduction (per person, on basic price)

- €40 reg.s

- €60 high.s

### SUPPLEMENTS, REDUCTIONS // SUPERIOR PACKAGE

#### Regular season

#### High season

1/1 Room Supplement (on basic price)

€500 reg.s

€850 high.s

1/3 Room Reduction (per person, on basic price)

- €20 reg.s

- €20 high.s

### CHILD POLICY, y/o // Valid both for Standard and Superior Package:

0 to 2

FOC

2 to 6 in existing bed

50% discount

2 to 12 in extra bed

1/3 Room Reduction Policy

12+ in extra bed

1/3 Room Reduction Policy



## **General inclusions // Valid both for Standard and Superior Package:**

- ❖ Airport arrival transfer
- ❖ All sightseeing tours and transfers that are included in the itinerary
- ❖ Entrance tickets to the NP Skadar Lake, NP Durmitor & Black Lake, NP Lovcen & Njegos Mausoleum, Our Lady of The Rocks, Kotor Old Town
- ❖ Wine tasting in a family-run winery near Skadar Lake
- ❖ Boat ride at Skadar Lake National Park
- ❖ Traditional food tasting in Njegusi village & Durmitor NP
- ❖ Boat trip from Perast to the island of Our Lady of the Rocks
- ❖ 1 bottle of water (0.5l) daily for each passenger
- ❖ Professional tour guidance throughout the tour
- ❖ VAT, accommodation taxes and city taxes
- ❖ Tour logistics and organisation by a licensed incoming agency

## **Standard package // Accommodation:**

- ❖ 3 BB in Budva or Tivat in Hotel Pine 4\* / Hotel Moskva 4\* / Hotel Bracera 4\* or similar
- ❖ 2 BB in Durmitor in Hotel Polar Star 3\* / Hotel Zlatni bor 3\* or similar
- ❖ 2 BB in Boka Bay in Hotel Casa del Mare - Blanche 4\* / Hotel Montebay Perla 4\* or similar

## **Superior package // Accommodation:**

- ❖ 3 BB in Budva or Tivat in Hotel La Roche 5\* / Hotel Avala 5\* / Hotel Budva 4\* or similar
- ❖ 2 BB in Durmitor in Hotel Soa 4\* / North Story – Luxury Chalet 4\* or similar
- ❖ 2 BB in Boka Bay in Hotel Casa del Mare - Mediterraneo 5\* / Lazure Marina & Hotel 5\* or similar

## **Notices:**

- ❖ Tips and portering services are not included in price
- ❖ Final choice of the hotels depends on current availability. The tour organiser reserves the right to change the hotel due to availability reasons but guarantees the same category, service quality and similar location of the accommodation unit
- ❖ Minimum number of passengers needed for guaranteed tour departure: 1
- ❖ The tour organiser reserves the right to change the itinerary of the tour due to unexpected slow-moving traffic at international borders. These changes will not affect the basic itinerary
- ❖ It is the responsibility of the passengers to get acquainted with visa requirements of all the countries they are travelling to or will be in transit
- ❖ General Travel Conditions are issued by Boccato DMC d.o.o.