

14-Night Montenegro & Dalmatian Coast Guided Walking Holiday

Tour Style: European Multi-Centre

Destinations: Croatia, Montenegro, Mediterranean & Balkans

Trip code: MGBVLCL

2 & 3



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Explore two different Balkan countries on one holiday! The first week is spent in Montenegro, one of the smallest and newest Balkan countries. Based in the coastal town of Petrovac, backed by the Pastrovici Mountains, set out each day to embark on one of two guided walks to explore the beautiful countryside, traditional villages and other points of interest. Highlights include walking in Lovćen National Park for dramatic views of Kotor Bay, a large inlet from the Adriatic surrounded by mountains and historic settlements, and a scenic boat ride on the wildlife-rich Lake Skadar. On the free day, an exploration of Old Kotor is highly recommended. Moving on to Croatia it's time to explore the Dalmatian coast, lapped by the warm waters of the Adriatic. From our base in the small coastal town of Baška Voda enjoy marvellous walking options along the mainland coast, on the delightful island of Brač and around the yawning chasm of the Cetina Gorge. There's a boat trip to the coastal town of Omis and walks in the foothills of the Biokovo Mountains.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- A full programme of guided walks with 2 options every walking day

- All transport to and from the walks
- The services of experienced HF Holidays' leaders
- "With flight" holidays include return flights from the UK and hotel transfers
- 14 nights accommodation in en-suite rooms
- Transport between the two destinations
- Half Board - continental breakfast and evening meal

HOLIDAYS HIGHLIGHTS

Montenegro

- Exceptional walking and cultural discovery in Montenegro, the 'Black Pearl' of the Balkans
- Discover stunning Kotor Bay and the Venetian palaces of Kotor's old town
- Enjoy wonderful panoramas of bays, mountains and the Adriatic from the Lovćen National Park
- Stay in Petrovac, a charming seaside town, renowned for its beautiful bay surrounded by dramatic mountains

Dalmatian Coast

- Walk the Cetina Gorge, then taking a boat trip to the town of Omiš
- Stop at charming coastal resorts for a dip in the turquoise waters of the Adriatic
- Evening boat ride to Makarska to enjoy the town lit up at night
- Outstanding waterfront hotel, right on the beach at Baška Voda
- Free day opportunities to visit the ancient city of Split and the medieval town of Trogir

TRIP SUITABILITY

Montenegro

This is a level 2 and level 3 graded Activity, Easier walks: 3 to 7 miles (5 to 11km) generally on good paths and stony tracks. Up to 1,300 feet (390m) of ascent in a day. Harder walks: 5 to 10 miles (8 to 16km) on steeper and rougher terrain. Up to 2,300 feet (690m) of ascent in a day.

Dalmatian Coast

This is a level 2 and level 3 graded Activity, Easier walks: 5 to 7 miles (8 to 11km) generally on good paths and tracks. Up to 1,100 feet (330m) of ascent in a day. Harder walks: 7 to 10 miles (11 to 16km) on steeper and rougher terrain. Up to 2,200 feet (660m) of ascent in a day.



ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival Day

Welcome to Hotel Palas. Unpack and settle in.

Day 2: Monasteries And The Coastal Traverse

On the slopes of the mountains above the coastal highway are numerous small communities, Orthodox monasteries and small farms with summer grazing called katuns. These introductory walks both use panoramic paths close to Petrovac, visit highly decorated churches, and are a great introduction to the area.

Option 1 - Lučice Beach And Gradište Monastery

Distance: 4 miles (6½km)

Total ascent: 700 feet (210m)

In summary: Walking from the hotel we pass the neighbouring picturesque Lučice beach and ascend to historic Gradište monastery, perched on a rocky outcrop. After a pleasant shaded traverse, we descend to a café at Buljarica beach for lunch before returning along the coast to our hotel.

Highlight: The attractive cove of Lučice.

Option 2 - An Alpine Katun And St Spiridon's Chapel

Distance: 7 miles (11km)

Total ascent: 700 feet (210m)

Total descent: 2,300 feet (690m)

In summary: An undulating path through trees and flowers along the top of the coastal mountain range takes us to the tiny chapel at Ogradenica for lunch. A rocky descent follows across the flanks of the mountains to a welcoming café with wonderful coastal views to Sveti Stefan, a perfect end to our first day.

Highlight: Superb views of the coast.

Day 3: The Tivat Peninsula And The Bay Of Kotor

The dramatic Bay of Kotor is flanked to the west by the wooded Tivat Peninsula culminating in Vrmac Hill. Among the trees lie the ruined 12th century Slav settlement of Pasiglav and the bucolic 14th century village of Gornja Lastva. Both walks enjoy a delightful path along the wooded slopes of Vrmac, and truly scenic views of the bay, often referred to as Europe's southernmost fjord, although it is actually a ria. Across the bay, the medieval towns of Perast and Kotor offer a taste of a possible excursion on the free day.

Option 1 - Gornja Lastva To Muo

Distance: 7 miles (11km)

Total ascent: 1,300 feet (390m)

Total descent: 2,200 feet (660m)

In summary: From Gornja Lastva we ascend through trees past the ruins of Pasiglav and continue steadily to the Tivat ridge with excellent views of Croatia and Serbia. An extraordinary former military road zigzags steadily down to the shore of Kotor Bay with views of the old town hemmed in by mountains.

Highlight: the incredible view of Kotor Bay laid out below you.

Option 2 - Gornja Lastva To Muo Above The Bay Of Kotor

Distance: 9 miles (14½km)

Total ascent: 2,000 feet (600m)

In summary: We ascend on a steep footpath to the Church of Sveti Vid with views to the Adriatic, Croatia and Serbia, before a long steady ascent brings us to the Tivat ridge summit for lunch with more superb views. We follow the ridge to join the Franz Josef Steig and descend the path taken by the easier group to a bayside

café.

Highlight: Look out for fabulous views on this walk.

Day 4: Cetinje And The Lovcen National Park

Towering over the Bay of Kotor and dominating the northwest of Montenegro are the two summits of Lovcen the out-of-bounds Stirovnik at 1,749m and Jezerski Vrh, crowned with the Mausoleum of Petar II at 1,657m – the target for today's harder walk. Both walks finish at Krstac on the boundary of the national park and at the head of one of the most spectacular roads in Europe. Both these walks, at over 4,000ft, may be affected by early season snow.

Option 1 - Cetinje And The Lovćen National Park

Distance: 6 miles (9½km)

Total ascent: 700 feet (210m)

Total descent: 1,800 feet (540m)

In summary: After a brief exploration of the former imperial capital of Cetinje we start our walk at Ivanova Korita in Lovcen National Park. A well made former military road leads us past Alpine communities and descends with stunning views over the Bay of Kotor to a welcoming café at Krstac.

Highlight: The local guide bringing Cetinje to life.

Option 2 - Lovćen And The Njegoš Mausoleum

Distance: 7 miles (11km)

Total ascent: 1,600 feet (480m)

Total descent: 2,400 feet (720m)

In summary: High within the Park, we ascend through trees to the summit ridge and viewpoint of Mt Lovćen. Descending steadily on a rough track we rejoin the easier group and descend to Kotor Bay and the hotel.

Highlight: Ascend a mountain summit and visit the mausoleum of Petar II Petrovic Njegos.

Day 5: Free Day

Each week there is a free day when no guided walks are offered. This is an ideal opportunity to relax around the hotel, walk independently or visit local places of interest. Some options for your free day may include:

Perast and Kotor: If there is sufficient interest your leaders will organise a coach to the picturesque old town of Perast, nestling at the foot of the mountains standing between the two bays of the inner Boka and opposite the Verige Channel, for an opportunity to explore the town and the nearby island of Our Lady of the Rock. The coach will then drive back along the bay to Kotor, whose old city is surrounded by walls that rise spectacularly to the crest of a rocky hillside. Old Kotor is a densely packed triangle of twisting streets, tiny squares, cafés and churches, and is a delight to just wander through and explore.

Budva: Nestling to the west of the lively holiday resort of Budva and to the north of Petrovac, Budva Stari Grad, or Old Town, has existed since before the 5th century BC. When the Roman Empire was divided, the border between it and Byzantium was drawn through Budva. The town has been meticulously restored after extensive

damage by an earthquake in 1979. There are many squares, museums, narrow streets and a busy harbour to explore.

Beaches: Within easy walking distance south of Petrovac is the quiet cove of Lučice, perfect for swimming. Café facilities are available here. A little further on is the wide expanse of reedbacked Buljarica beach.

There is an excellent pool at the hotel. Details of other seasonal excursions are available from your leaders and the hotel reception desk.

Day 6: Loska And Stari Bar

Southeast of Petrovac towards the border with Albania, the Rumija range of mountains separates the Adriatic from Lake Skadar. This is a landscape where mosques sit alongside Orthodox churches and hillside farmers scratch a living. We pass the industrialised sprawl of Bar, the terminal on the Adriatic for the railway from Podgorica, to start our walks near Loška.

Option 1 - Villages Below Loška And Stari Bar

Distance: 7 miles (11km)

Total ascent: 1,000 feet (300m)

Total descent: 2,100 feet (630m)

In summary: Our path undulates past prosperous farming communities before a steep track leading to a lovely lunch spot at Loška. Passing flower strewn meadows minor roads bring us back to the coach for transport to the fascinating ruins of Stari Bar.

Highlight: Stari Bar is an historic, partially ruined town.

Option 2 - Loška

Distance: 5 miles (8km)

Total ascent: 2,200 feet (660m)

In summary: Starting far inland at the isolated Muslim community of Lunje we walk the first stage of the high level mountain path through myriad flowers to the summit of Loška to enjoy lunch with far reaching views to the Adriatic and Albania. Returning to Lunje we are taken to the old town of Bar for refreshments before continuing to the hotel.

Highlight: Impressive views of the Adriatic and Albania.

Day 7: Rijeka Crnojevica & Lake Skadar

Between Petrovac and the capital to the east, Podgorica, lies the National Park of Lake Skadar, a huge wildlife reserve shared between Montenegro and Albania to the south. Surrounded on three sides by Montenegrin mountains, Skadar is one of the largest lakes in Europe with 40 different kinds of fish and 270 bird species. Both walks will explore this beautiful area and have the opportunity to enjoy a boat ride back to Virpazar before the coach journey to our hotel.

Option 1 - Poseljani And Lake Skadar

Distance: 3 miles (5km)

Total ascent: 400 feet (120m)

In summary: On this walk we explore almost deserted Poseljani down to the lake shore before following the river on a stony path passing waterfalls to rejoin the coach for lunch at the historic old bridge café in Rijeka Crnojevica. We then take our scenic boat ride down the river and across Lake Skadar.

Highlight: The boat trip on Lake Skadar with sightings of numerous birds almost certainly including the rare Dalmatian pelican.

Option 2 - Poseljani, Rijeka Crnojevića & Lake Skadar

Distance: 6 miles (9½km)

Total ascent: 1,400 feet (420m)

In summary: After a brief exploration of Poseljani we ascend steeply on a little walked packhorse route to a high open space for lunch, passing old farmsteads as we descend through trees to rejoin the easier group. Our boat ride takes us to the lakeside community of Virpazar with all facilities prior to our return to the hotel.

Highlight: Taking the boat trip on Lake Skadra, watching out for a variety of fauna.

Day 8: Transfer Day

Transfers between hotels are via Dubrivnik airport.

Welcome to Hotel Bacchus. Unpack and settle in.

Day 9: Villages And Coast Around Baska Voda

Today our walks start and finish at the hotel to enjoy the foothills of the Biokovo Mountains which rise above the village. Both groups will descend to the coast at the neighbouring resort of Brela. We will then follow the coastline on a promenade through small beach resorts with the opportunity to pause for a drink or swim on our way back to Baška Voda.

Option 1 - Villages, Views And Promenade

Distance: 6 miles (9½ km)

Total ascent: 1,100 feet (330m)

In summary: We explore the mainly abandoned Dalmatian village of Topici before continuing northwest, parallel to the coast, walking through small tourist resorts en route back to Baška Voda. On wide paths with wonderful views this is a popular walk with numerous places to stop after lunch for a swim in the brilliantly clear waters of the Adriatic.

Highlight: Take a dip in the crystal clear waters of the Adriatic.

Option 2 - Napoleon's Road, High Col And Promenade

Distance: 10 miles (16km)

Total ascent: 1,900 feet (570m)

In summary: The harder walk will ascend to a high mountain col. Using a part of the extraordinary Napoleon's Old Road we ascend to one of the best lunch spot of the week with views in every direction. A stony descent takes us to the coastal promenade for a delightful return to our hotel.

Highlight: The stunning Napoleon's Road

Day 10: The Island Of Brač

The island of Brač lies approximately four miles offshore from the mainland, and is about the same size as the Isle of Wight. The island's coastline has a series of attractive harbour villages, two of which will be visited on our walks. We travel to Brač by boat from Baška Voda harbour. We will arrive at Sumartin harbour and from here walk to a secluded cove and through olive groves to the equally attractive harbour at Povlja. Here our boat will be waiting for the return trip.

Option 1 - Island Coast And Harbour Villages

Distance: 7 miles (11km)

Total ascent: 400 feet (120m)

In summary: After time to explore or enjoy a relaxed morning coffee in Sumartin, we ascend out of the town and enjoy a wide track above the east coast of the island with stunning views across to the mountains on the mainland. At the hamlet of Rasotica we see how the local inhabitants collect water where there are no natural springs, before a possible swim in the nearby picturesque cove. A good track leads us to lunch in the shade of an olive grove before walking to the north coast of the island with its basilica and harbour.

Highlight: The islands beautiful coastline with it's attractive harbour villages.

Option 2 - Island Coast, Terraces And Harbour Village

Distance: 9 miles (13km)

Total ascent: 800 feet (240m)

In summary: This coast to coast walk follows the route of the easier group with ascent to a col for our picnic lunch and the return from the delightful quiet coastal village of Povlja.

Highlight: The boat journey from Baška Voda harbour to Brač

Day 11: Hillside Villages To Makarska

Today's walks use panoramic elevated paths in the foothills of the Biokovo Mountains. The views along the coast and across to the islands are superb throughout. Both walks will visit Vepric Shrine, a wooded Catholic pilgrimage site, before following the coastline along promenade to finish in Makarska.

Option 1 - Hillside Villages And Makarska

Distance: 5½ miles (9km)

Total ascent: 1,000 feet (300m)

In summary: Starting at the village of Bast we ascend through the village before contouring south east on a wide path with good views over the coast. Then our descent takes us through scattered pines and olive groves to reach Vepric Shrine. After a short visit we will be transported to Makarska for refreshments and an optional walk around the peninsula.

Highlight: Explore the bustling harbour of Makarska.

Option 2 - Bast Village High Tracks And Makarska

Distance: 10 miles (16km)

Total ascent: 1,500 feet (450m)

In summary: Starting at Bast, this walk gradually ascends on a higher broad track on the flanks of the Biokovo mountains, initially in shaded forest before the views open out over Makarska. We can see the locations of walks earlier in the week on Brač and high above Makar before descending to Vepric Shrine and onto Makarska to join the easier group at the harbour.

Highlight: Superb views down to the coast and across to the islands.

Day 12: Free Day

Each week there is a free day when no guided walks are offered. This is an ideal opportunity to relax around the hotel, walk independently or visit local places of interest. Some options for your free day may include:

Makarska: A relaxing option is to walk along the coast to Makarska. This is a generally straightforward walk, taking around two hours, with plenty of opportunities for swimming along the way. In Makarska you may want to have lunch in one of the waterfront cafés, before returning to Baška Voda on one of the regular local buses.

Split: Split is the capital of the region and is located 50km northwest of Baška Voda. The city can be reached by local bus, and the initial approach to the city through rows of dilapidated apartment blocks appears unpromising. At its heart, however, is an enthralling old town of narrow streets and ancient buildings. The principal sights are the cathedral of St Domnius and the remains of Diocletian's Palace with its spectacular gates, museum and temple.

Trogir: A little further away is the equally impressive city of Trogir. Built on an island, this beautiful walled city has a maze of narrow medieval streets, elegant waterfront cafés, a wide waterfront promenade and dramatic fortifications. The city is also the best example of Croatian cultural life on the Dalmatian coast. The magnificent cathedral inspired UNESCO to name the town a World Heritage Site in 1997.

Krka National Park: The Krka River and its wonderful waterfalls define the landscape of Šibenik-Knin country and are the focus of the Krka National Park. The Krka waterfalls are a Karstic phenomenon. A popular option is to combine a visit to Trogir with the spectacular waterfalls in Krka National Park; your leaders will organise this if there is sufficient interest.

Day 13: The Foothills Of The Biokovo Mountains

Both walks will start at the village of Makar, which sits on the hillside not far from Makarska, commanding superb views of the coast below, making their way via differing routes to Tučepi.

Option 1 - Botanical Gardens, Villages And Tučepi

Distance: 6 miles (9½km)

Total ascent: 500 feet (150m)

Total descent: 1,200 feet (360m)

In summary: On mostly good paths, this gentle paced walk reveals the contrasts between the traditional life at

the base of the Biokovo range and the welcoming facilities of an attractive coastal resort. We visit old churches, small villages and botanical gardens along the way.

Highlight: Take a seat in the botanical gardens and admire the view out to the islands of Brač and Hvar.

Option 2 - Into The Biokovo Mountains

Distance: 7 miles (11km)

Total ascent: 2,200 feet (660m)

In summary: The most challenging walk of the week ascends on a remarkably constructed former mule track before contouring in welcome shade high above the coast. A slightly rougher descent takes us to a traditional café.

Highlight: An exhilarating mountain day with spectacular views.

Day 14: Cetina Gorge

The Cetina Gorge is an impressive natural feature that has been carved through the limestone of the Biokovo Mountains. We start inland at the village of Kostanje, behind the coastal mountain range.

Option 1 - In To The Gorge

Distance: 7 miles (11km)

Total ascent: 800 feet (240m)

In summary: Enjoying contrasting scenery to the coastal region, an easy morning through quiet villages takes us to a dramatic lunch spot with views to the Cetina River below. From here we follow a well-graded path through trees leading us to our boats which take us to a historic mill for refreshment, and through the gorge to Omiš on the coast.

Highlight: The delightful boat journey through the gorge to the coastal town of Omiš.

Option 2 - Above The Cetina Gorge

Distance: 8 miles (13km)

Total ascent: 900ft (270m)

In summary: We will take an alternative route to the easier route to visit a church for lunch with distant views high above the morning's path, and then rejoin the path down to and into the gorge.

Highlight: Marvel at the Cetina Gorge; an impressive natural feature that has been carved through the limestone of the Biokovo Mountains.

Day 15: Departure Day

We hope to see you again soon.

ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Palas - Montenegro

The 4-star Hotel Palas is located on the promenade of Petrovac, a coastal resort town with sandy beaches and hidden coves. The towering Pastrovici Mountains provide a picturesque backdrop to the hotel while in the ground there are attractive terraces and gardens planted with orange and olive trees. The hotel is within easy walking distance of the shops and it owns part of the sandy Lucice beach; hotel guests enjoy private seating. Wi-Fi is available throughout the hotel.

Accommodation Info

Rooms

There are 173 bedrooms, all en-suite with bath/shower, hairdryer, minibar, room safe, air conditioning, TV and telephone.

Facilities

There is a wellness centre and spa that has a Finnish sauna, Turkish bath, whirlpool, an outdoor saltwater pool and indoor freshwater pool. There are a range of treatments available to book for additional cost.

There are two hotel bars, one near the reception with lovely views to the sea and nearby islands, and one near the pool.

Food & Drink

Our holidays at Hotel Palas are on a Half Board basis and include breakfast and evening meal.

Breakfast

The hotel has a buffet style breakfast from 7am.

Lunch (Payable Locally)

Ingredients for a picnic lunch can be bought from local shops.

Evening Meal

The hotel has a comprehensive buffet from 7.30pm. Vegetarians and those with special diets should discuss their requirements with the hotel staff on their arrival.

Drinks

The hotel has well-stocked bars serving beer, wine and spirits.

Your Evenings

Each evening your leaders will tell you about the next day's activities and answer any questions you may have.

During the evening you may like to join in an optional organised activity, such as a quiz. On one evening, we have arranged for a local speaker to come and speak to our guest groups and enlighten you on this regions colourful history.

Alternatively, you may wish to relax in the bar with your fellow guests or go for a walk along the beach on warmer evenings.

Hotel Villa Bacchus - Dalmatian Coast

The 4-star Hotel Bacchus is located on the seafront, overlooking the crystal-clear Adriatic Sea and the island of Brač. There is a peaceful pebble beach in front of the hotel where sun loungers and beach towels can be hired. Built in 2003, Hotel Villa Bacchus is owned by the Divic family, and guests have rated the accommodation, meals and service very highly. Winner of three HF Hotel Awards in 2018 based on guest feedback.

Accommodation Info

Facilities

The hotel has a good range of facilities and public rooms, including a lounge bar perfect for meeting fellow guests.

There's an attractive restaurant which takes full advantage of the sea views and opens onto a terrace where meals can be taken in good weather.

Hotel Bacchus offers a modern leisure suite on the lower floor with a sauna and spa pool - perfect for relaxing at the end of the day.

The hotel also has internet access.

Food & Drink

Our holidays at Hotel Bacchus are on a Half Board basis and include breakfast and evening meal.

Breakfast

There is an extensive selection of hot and cold options for breakfast from a self-select buffet. Hot options are cooked fresh to order and include boiled or poached eggs, bacon, and omelettes.

Lunch (Payable Locally)

There are a number of shops in Baška Voda, where you can buy ingredients for your picnic lunch. On other days it may be possible to eat in local cafés; your leader will advise you of all the options.

Evening Meal

The three course evening meal offers a mixture of Croatian and international dishes, and, as might be expected, there are fish and seafood options. The starter is selected from a superb buffet with a wide variety of salads, soup and hot dishes. Main course is selected from the extensive menu.

Drinks

The hotel has a well-stocked bar serving beer, wine and spirits

Your Evenings

The friendly atmosphere of our Guided Walking holidays continues into the evening.

Enjoy a glass of wine or local beer whilst finding out more about the next day's walks. We'll enjoy a leisurely

evening meal and you may also like to join your leader for an evening stroll along the prom to the harbour and visit one of the local bars, or enjoy a boat trip along the beautiful Adriatic Coast.

Your leader will also keep you informed of any local events going on nearby. Alternatively, you may like to relax on the terrace or in the bar, with a drink and chat with your fellow guests.

TRAVEL DETAILS

THE HASSLE-FREE OPTION

Book your holiday 'with flight' and choose between Gatwick and Manchester flights to Dubrovnik airport. For flight times and prices please see the Dates & Prices tab.

If you choose this option we automatically include return transfers between the airport and the hotel. The coach transfer takes approx 4 hours including comfort stop to the Hotel Villa Bacchus.

THE FLEXIBLE TRAVEL OPTION

Alternatively, tailor your journey to suit you by booking your holiday 'without flight' allowing you the freedom to book your own flights from your local airport.

If you choose this option, transfers are not included in the price. However, below are some suggestions to help you reach your destination:

- We can book you a seat on the **HF Holidays' transfer coach** from Dubrovnik airport. This is timed to meet the HF Holidays' flights* (provisional flight times can be found on the dates and prices tab or you can call us on 020 8732 1220 for more information). Cost per single journey is £42.50
- Why not let us book you a **private taxi transfer** - price on request

Transfers must be pre-booked. Please call 020 8732 1220 for more details

USEFUL HOLIDAY INFORMATION

Essential Information

Passport Requirements

You may need to renew your British passport if you're travelling from 1 January 2021.

On the day you travel, you'll need your passport to both:

- have at least 6 months left
- be less than 10 years old (even if it has 6 months or more left)

Use the [government website](#) to see if your passport is valid for this holiday

EHIC Cards

The UK government has officially launched the Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC), which will replace the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). UK residents can now apply for one of the GHIC cards, which will gradually replace the EHIC cards as they reach their expiry dates. Every family member travelling requires a GHIC. You can make an application for yourself and on behalf of your partner and any dependent children

under the age of 16. Both cards will offer equivalent protection for emergency and medically necessary healthcare needs when in the EU on a temporary stay, which includes holiday, study and business travel. Necessary healthcare includes things like

- emergency treatment and visits to A&E
- treatment for long-term or pre-existing medical conditions
- routine medical care for pre-existing conditions that need monitoring
- oxygen and kidney dialysis

The public only need to apply for their free GHIC cards when their current EHIC expires. The process is likely to take two weeks. For more information visit <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>.

The GHIC is not an alternative to travel insurance. We advise all holidaymakers to also invest in travel insurance that covers healthcare, so they are covered for other issues that may arise, as well as cancellations and lost luggage.

Essential Equipment

To enjoy walking/hiking comfortably and safely, footwear, clothing and equipment needs to be suitable for the conditions. Safety and comfort are our priorities, so our advice is to come prepared for all eventualities.

- Footwear with a good grip on the sole (e.g. Vibram sole) is the key to avoiding accidents.
- Walking/hiking boots providing ankle support and good grip are recommended (ideally worn in), and specialist walking socks to avoid blisters.
- Several layers of clothing, which can be added or removed, are better than a single layer (include spares).
- Fabrics (lightweight and fast drying) designed for the outdoors are recommended.
- Waterproof jacket and waterproof over trousers.
- Warm hat and gloves.
- Denim jeans and capes are not suitable on any walks.
- Rucksack with a waterproof liner.
- Thermos flask for hot drink.
- Water bottle (at least 2 litre).
- Spare high-energy food such as a chocolate bar.
- Small torch.
- First aid kit – your leader's first aid kit doesn't contain any medication or blister kits (such as Compeed).
- Sun hat and sunglasses
- Sun cream.

Optional Equipment

- Walking poles are useful, particularly for descents.
- Insect repellent.
- Camera.
- Gaiters.

Useful Information

Tap water is considered safe to drink, but if you prefer, bottled mineral water can be purchased from the hotel or local supermarkets.

In Montenegro the local language is Montenegrin. Along the Dalmatian Coast the local language is Croatian. English is spoken widely in shops and tourist attractions.

If the international number you wish to call starts with a 0, you must drop the starting digit when dialling the number.

To dial a UK number 0044

To dial a Montenegrin number 00382

To dial a Croatian number 00385

Local Currency

The local currency for Montenegro is the Euro. Along the Dalmatian Coast the local currency is the Croatian Kuna.

Electricity

220 Volt AC with round two pin plugs; you will need an adaptor for any appliances brought from the UK.

ATM Availability

There are several ATM machines in Petrovac and Baška Voda where you can obtain money.

HOW TO BOOK

When you're ready to book, you can choose to **book online** or book **over the phone**. Our website offers secure online booking for our holidays, is available 24/7, and offers more in-depth information about all our holidays. If you prefer to call us, our experienced and knowledgeable team are available to answer any specific questions you have and can offer guidance as to which holiday is best suited to your needs.

Our office is open: Monday to Friday: 9am – 7pm Saturday: 9am – 1pm Sunday & Bank Holiday Monday: closed

PAYING YOUR DEPOSIT

To secure the holiday of your choice, you will need to pay a deposit: UK & European Holidays: £150 per person and Worldwide Holidays: £250 per person. You can pay your deposit by debit or credit card with no additional card fees charged or make an online BACS payment directly into HF's bank account, please see details under BACS payments. You can also pay your deposit by cheque within seven days of booking. Cheques should be made payable to 'HF Holidays Ltd' with your booking reference / Order ID on the back.

NON-MEMBER FEE

Non-members can join our holidays by paying a Non-Member's fee of £30 per person per holiday. Alternatively, full membership is available from £100 – visit hfholidays.co.uk/membership for details.

BACS PAYMENTS

Please quote your booking reference / Order ID when you make your payment online: Bank Name: Svenska Handelsbanken AB (publ) Account Name: HF Holidays Ltd Account Number: 35923304 Sort Code: 40-51-62 IBAN: GB92HAND40516235923304 Swift / Bic Code: HANDGB22

Once we have received your booking and deposit, we will send a confirmation invoice to the lead name. Please check this carefully. For bookings 'with flights' it is essential that the names on your booking confirmation invoice match those on your passport for bookings overseas. Please advise us immediately of any errors. Any name changes after the balance of your holiday has been paid will be subject to a fee levied by the airline.

MANAGE MY BOOKINGS

Payments can also be made through the Manage My Booking function on our website. Click on the link at the top of our homepage. This is available to all customers who provide an email address at the time of booking.

YOUR FINAL BALANCE

The balance is due 10 weeks before departure. As with paying your deposit, you can pay your final balance by debit or credit card, make an online BACS payment directly into HF's bank account or pay by cheque.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is an important part of any booking and essential for one of our holidays. HF Holidays works with specialist. Insurance Brokers Campbell Irvine Direct. For more information or to obtain a quote call them on 01702 427 236 or visit hfholidays.co.uk/insurance

PEACE OF MIND

ATOL:

The air holidays and flights in this brochure are ATOL-protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 710. In the unlikely event of our insolvency, the CAA will ensure that you are not stranded abroad and will arrange to refund any money you have paid us for advance bookings. For further information visit the ATOL website atol.org.uk

MEMBER OF ABTOT:

HF Holidays is a member of ABTOT (The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited) which provides financial protection under the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992 for HF Holidays Ltd and in the event of their insolvency, protection is provided for the following: 1. non-flight packages commencing in and returning to the UK; 2. non-flight packages commencing and returning to a country other than the UK; 3. flight inclusive packages that commence outside of the UK and Republic of Ireland, which are sold to customers outside of the UK and Republic of Ireland. 1, 2 and 3 provides for a refund in the event you have not yet travelled. 1 and 3 provides for repatriation. Please note that bookings made outside the UK and Republic of Ireland are only protected by ABTOT when purchased directly with HF Holidays Ltd.

TRIP NOTE VALIDITY

These Trip Notes are valid based on the date printed at the bottom of the page. They will occasionally be updated post booking and pre-departure. We will send you the latest trip notes prior to departure through a link in your pre departure documents or we can send you a copy in the post if preferred.

In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call HF Holidays and ask to speak to one of the team about this itinerary.

The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; so please be prepared to be flexible where necessary. At times, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned due to weather conditions, political, physical or other factors. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

PRICE GUARANTEE

We promise that our earliest published prices will always be the best and if we reduce our holiday price after your booking has been confirmed, we will pass this reduction on to you. Our price promise applies if any subsequent offer price is for an identical holiday, duration, location and date and does not cover any optional extras, flights or additional services.

Document produced: 21-09-2021

