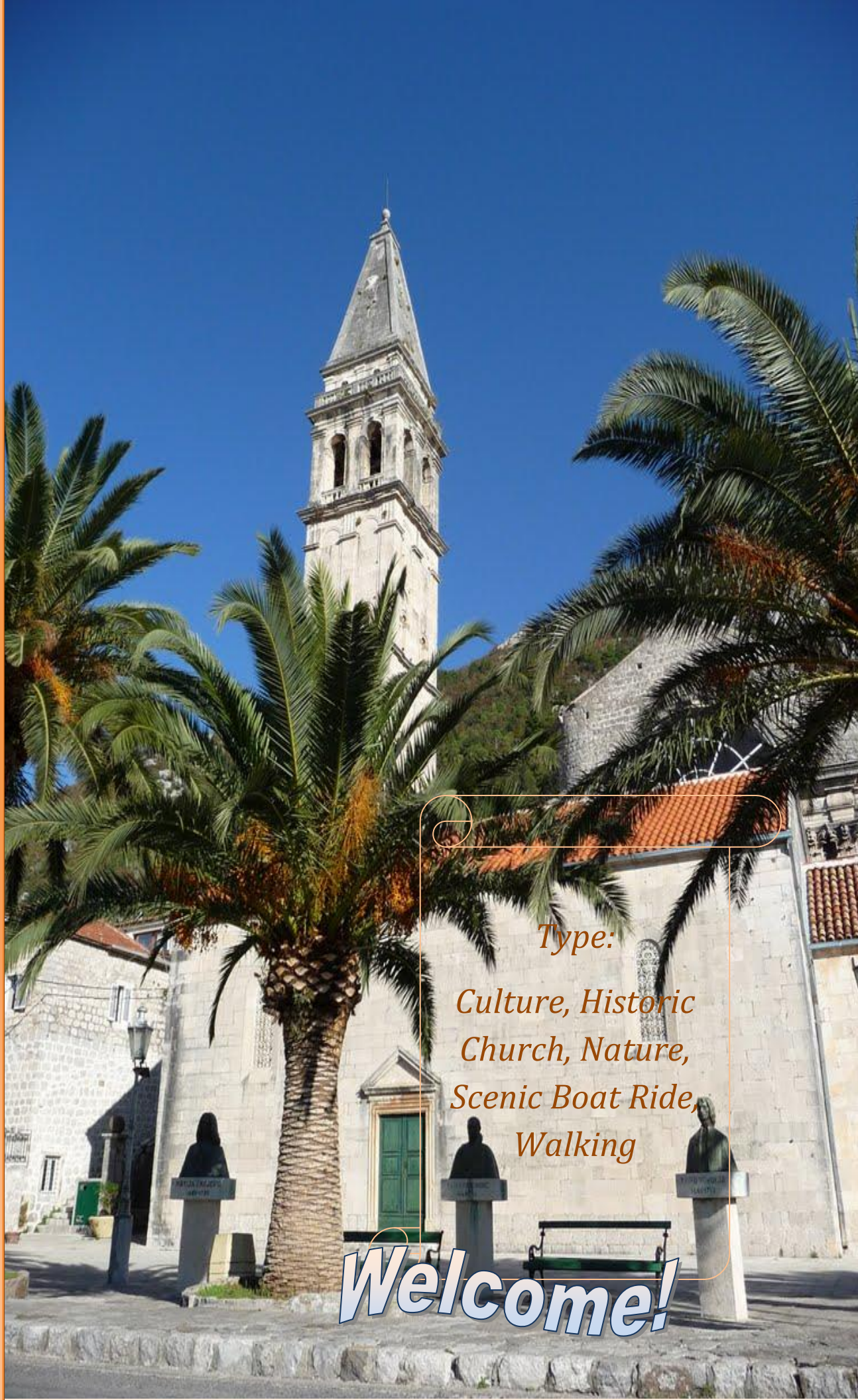


# BAY OF KOTOR



*Type:*

*Culture, Historic  
Church, Nature,  
Scenic Boat Ride,  
Walking*

*Welcome!*



# ABOUT TOUR



Halfway picnic to the most southern fiord in Europe is the opportunity to see the unique natural beauty of this bay and to get to know its history, culture and architecture. Picnic includes panoramic drive by bus to the bay and by boat from Perast to Island.

**Type:** Culture, Historic Church, Nature, Scenic Boat Ride, Walking

**Length:** 4 Hours

**Walking:** Medium

**Mobility:** No wheelchairs

**Guide:** Licensed Guide

**Language:** English, Italian, French, German, Russian (other languages upon request)

In the old town of captains Perast, best preserved baroque totality in the Adriatic, visitors will see the cathedral of St.Nicola and on the island Our Lady of the Rock the church with same name from the 17th century. Walls and ceiling of the church covers 68 paintings on canvas of Tripo Kokolj, one of the best known domestic baroque painters. After Perast you can visit The Old city of Kotor, which is as well as the whole bay registrated in the pages of World's treasury and it's under the protection of UNESCO.



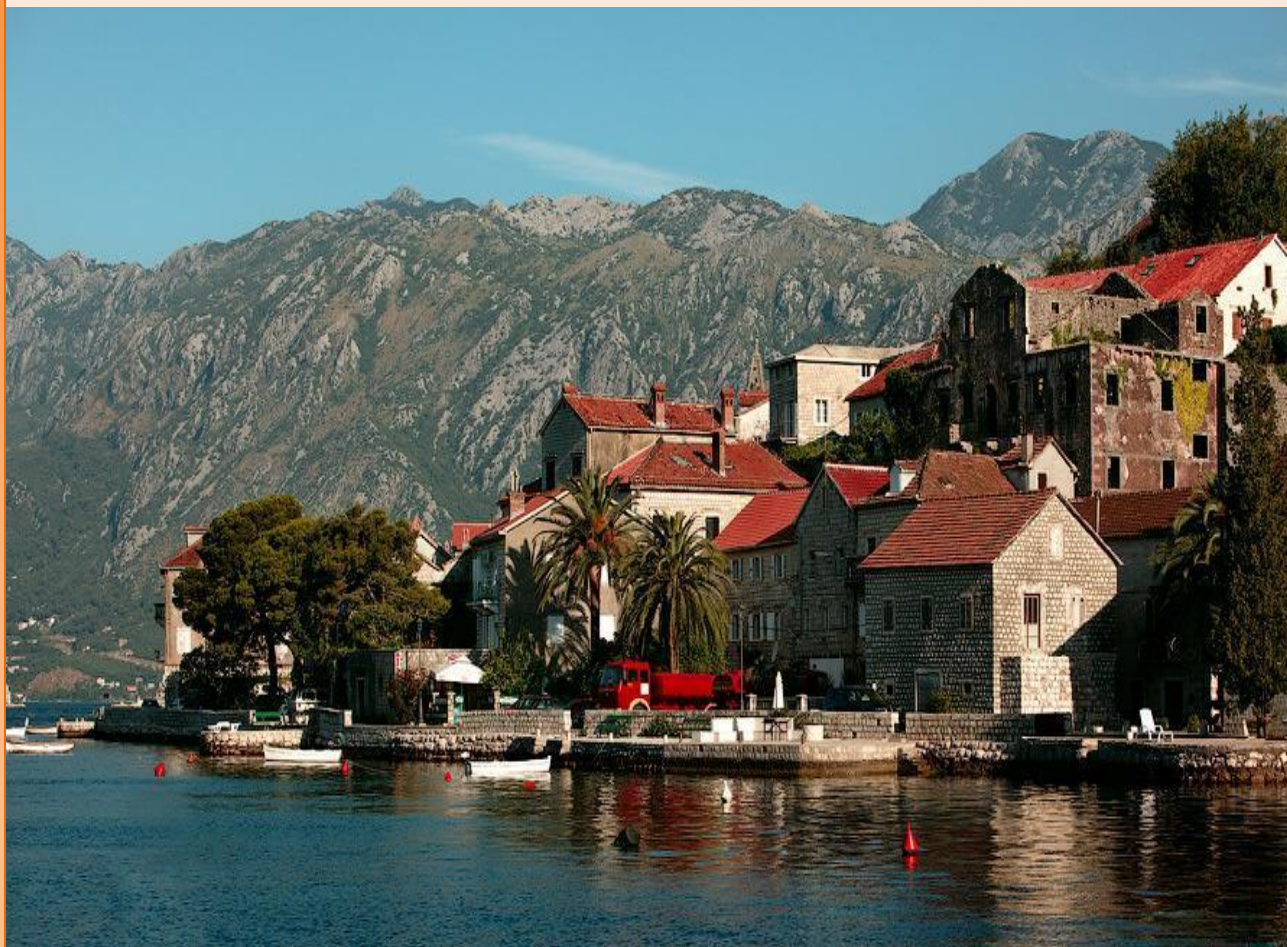


# ABOUT PERAST



The Gulf of Kotor (Boka Kotorska) cuts deeply into the coastline of the southern part of the Yugoslav Adriatic, creating four spectacular bays ringed in mountains, the "fjords" of the Mediterranean. The little town of Perast is situated at the foot of St. Elijah Hill (873 m), opposite the narrow Verige strait, where the innermost bays of Risan and Kotor converge. This easternmost shore was the earliest inhabited area in the Boka. The remains of a Neolithic culture (3500 BC) have been discovered in the caves of Spila above Perast and various archaeological finds provide evidence of civilization dating from Illyrian, Roman and early Christian periods.

Preceded by two jewel-like islands, Perast is focused on the sea. From the interaction between mainland and bay, the inherent contrast of stone and water, the dialogue of island and wave, sometimes in harmony but often in conflict, this sea-faring town has derived its unity, strength and sense of purpose. Despite its size, a sophisticated urban structure has arisen, demonstrated by the proportion, scale, massing and rhythm of the great number of public buildings, especially along the waterfront.







Probably the most distinctive standard bearers of the identity of Perast are the two magical islands situated between the Verige strait and the town. Although differing in many respects, they lie in harmonious conjunction, united by the vastness of the sea. Like husband and wife, they display the historic attributes of male and female. The island of St. George is an intense, stalwart, dark and inward-looking natural island while Our Lady of the Rock is a slender, gay, light-filled "floating" island - which man has made.

Abbey of St. George - Established by the Benedictines, the abbey was first mentioned in 1166 in documents describing the consecration of the new, second Romanesque church of St. Tryphon in Kotor. The occasion was attended by, among others, Ivan, the abbot of St. George. However, in studying various ornamentation on this structure, it can be concluded that the abbey was already in use by the Benedictines as early as the 9th century. Except for certain details, the appearance of the old church has not been preserved. The island was constantly under attack both by invaders and earthquakes, especially the great earthquake of 1667 when the ceiling and apse collapsed during the Easter service. Following this catastrophe, a simple church was built. Its tombstones contain a unique collection of heraldic emblems from the casadas of Perast. It remained a burial place until 1866, when a new graveyard was built in the northern part of the town. The church once housed paintings dating from 1327 and 1457; the latter painted by Lovro Marinov Dobricevic, a famous painter from Kotor. The abbey of St. George had been under the jurisdiction of Kotor until 1634 when patronage of the island was transferred to the Senate of Venice. In 1571, the pirate Karadoz burnt down the abbey as well as the whole town. The people of Perast began repairs on the church in 1603. In 1812, for about a year, the abbey was taken over by the French who were later expelled by the inhabitants of Perast from both the Fortress of St. Cross and the abbey. In 1814, the abbey was taken over by the Austrians.

# ABOUT ISLANDS





# Our Lady of the Rock island



**Our Lady of the Rock** – Our Lady of the Rock lies about 115 m (377 feet) northeast of the island of St. George. The stone plateau in the middle of the sea with a church on it is the result of the enduring efforts of generations of mariners "... to leave there, in the very heart of the Bay of Boka Kotorska, a testimony of their Christian faith and culture..." The island was built artificially by scuttling old ships and depositing stones around a small crag. The name of the island derived from the word skrpjel – an old word for a crag. The construction of a sanctuary began in the first century of the Venetian rule. The sanctuary was dedicated to the Assumption of the Virgin because this cult (Assunzione Della Vergine) was greatly venerated by the Venetians. The original church was built in the mid-15th century and was of modest proportions. Over the centuries, the "island" was constantly enlarged and reinforced by both deposits of stones and scuttled sailing ships until it provided a sufficient base for a bolder architectural undertaking. Most of the present-day church was erected after the great earthquake of 1667 when the original sanctuary was destroyed. It is a single-nave, modestly proportioned church in the Byzantine style. An octagonal 11m domed presbytery and a bell tower were added circa 1725. These gave the Our Lady of the Rock the distinctive baroque appearance that can be seen today. The interior of the church was decorated by Tripo Kokolja, a famous 17th-century painter from Perast. On the altar is the famous icon of Our Lady of the Rock, a 15th century work by Lovro Marinov Dobricevic. It is the most valuable work of art in the church because its history is so closely related to that of the island.

After Perast you can visit The Old city of Kotor. During the visit of town you'll see the cathedral of St. Trifun from the 12th century, Maritime museum, numerous palaces, old squares and feel the atmosphere of this unique medieval town.





# ABOUT KOTOR



Kotor is situated on the southeastern part of Boka bay, on a foothill of the mountain Lovcen. The area of community of Kotor is 355 km<sup>2</sup>. Kotor is cultural, educational, economical and sport center of this area.

As the only fiord on the Mediterranean, Boka Kotorska was added to the list of twenty five the most beautiful bays in the world in July 2000, the others being mainly in Scandinavia. Kotor is situated on the southeast end of Boka Kotorska. The history of Kotor can be traced to the most ancient times. In the surrounding caves there have been found various tools and ceramics witnessing humane existence from the Neolithic period, as well as drawings on the walls of the cave at Lipci near Risan.

In the antique period the Illyrian tribal state was the first organized humane community on these territories. Roman conquest began by the end of the third century BC and since the year 169 BC these territories had been under the rule of Rome, and then were taken over by the Byzantines. The first Slav tribes settled there in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Its first state was Doclea, later called Zeta. Since the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> century Kotor was in power of the members of the Nemanjic Dynasty until 1420 when the Republic of Venice occupied it and stayed there until 1797, the time of the Napoleon wars in Europe. After the stormy period from 1797 to 1814 when this area was alternately under the Russians, French, Austrians and Montenegrins, at the Vienna Congress in 1814, Kotor became the constituent of the Austro-Hungary Monarchy and remained under the rule of Austro-Hungary until 1918 when this region became a part of Yugoslavia until its disintegration.

For its unique mixture of different cultures, Kotor entered the list of the world cultural heritage under the protection of the UNESCO. In the past, the most developed industry in this area was trade and maritime affairs. Seafarers used to bring different products from overseas which they would exchange for the goods they were in need of. In that way Kotor became one of the most important trading centers in this part of the Adriatic coast.







## The Grgurina Palace - Maritime Museum

The palace Grgurina belonged to the noble family Grgurina. It was built in the eighteenth century in the Baroque style, with the façade on which dominate stone balconies with balustrades. Particularly interesting is originally preserved lay out of the floor rooms according to the Venetian pattern which says: the master's house has four rooms and one parlor.

Today in the palace is situated the Maritime Museum whose collection shows development of maritime affairs and cultural level of the inhabitants of the Montenegrin Littoral and Boka Kotorska in the past.



The Maritime Museum of Montenegro in Kotor has grown out of the collection founded by the "Boka Marine" Fraternity, around the year 1880 and opened to public in 1900.

It gradually enlarged and in 1938, it was re-arranged and opened to visitors on the first floor of the present Museum building. It was only after the end of World War II, in the period 1949-1952, that the whole building, Baroque palace of the noble Grgurina family from the beginning of the 18th century was completely restored and adapted to meet the needs of the Museum.





# St. Tryphon Cathedral



## St. Tryphon Cathedral

The Romanesque church built in 1166 on the foundations of the small Romanesque church from the ninth century. It is three-nave Basilica, extensively restored several times, especially after the 1667 earthquake when the bell towers and a part of the façade were destroyed. After the earthquake, new bell towers were made in the Baroque style. The rose windows on the façade are those which attract the special attention. Once they were Romanesque but today they are with Gothic-Renaissance motives.

St. Tryphon's Cathedral has in its possession a rich collection of art paintings preserving the works of Marin Lovra Dobricevic, Tripo Kokolj, Paolo Veroveza, Hieronim Santa Croce and other great artists. The church has a rich collection of gold and silver relics, the works of local masters from the period from the fourteenth to the eighteenth centuries. The interior of the Cathedral is depicted with frescoes done by Greek masters - pictures greci.

The most important part of the interior decoration of the Cathedral is the Romanesque Gothic ciborium from the fourteenth century above the main altar.

On the wall of the apse there is the Golden Altarpiece with figures of Christ, the Virgin, St. John the Baptist and St. Tryphon and sixteen other saints. It is the masterpiece of Kotor goldsmiths' work of the first half of the fifteenth century.





# St. Nicola's Church



## St. Nicola's Church

Church of St. Nicholas is the most important Orthodox Church in Kotor. It is located in the northern part of the old town. The twin towered, frontal facade of the church shares the same square as the pretty St. Luke's Square. A church was originally built here in the 17th century but was destroyed in the 19th. The building of the church started in 1902 and according to the inscriptions on the facade it was finished in 1909. It was built in the Pseudo-Byzantine style as one-nave church. The main façade is framed with two bell towers.

Of special value in the church is iconostasis of the church made in 1908. The church standing in its place dates from 1909. The interior of the church is well worth investigated for its peaceful atmosphere and beautiful icons. You can get a different view of the church by walking through the Karampana Tower in the western corner of the old town and along the Skurda canal where you will reach the back of the Church. Hanging from the front facade is the flag of the Serbian Orthodox Church.





# St. Luka's Church



## St. Luka's Church

Another important Orthodox church is St. Luka's Church, also located in the Old Town. It was built during the reign of the Serbian dynasty Nemanjic, late 12th century.

St. Lucas's Church is situated in the centre of the urban core of Kotor. The church was built in 1195. The iconostas of the church is the work of art of Dimitrije Daskal, the founder of the Boka Kotorska Rafailovic iconographic school, from the 17th century.

This is the only edifice in the town that did not suffer significant destruction during the earthquake. The floor in the church consists of tombstones on the joint tombs of the citizens of Kotor, since until the 1830's burials were being carried out in the church itself.





# PRICES



## Prices from 30,00 € per person

Price of the excursions includes:

### 1) Transport

- Up to 2 persons – Car Transport
- From 3 to 7 persons - Minivan Transport
- From 8 to 18 persons – Mini bus Transport
- From 18 - 49 persons - Bus Transport

### 2) Boat ride from Perast to Our Lady of the Rock island

3) Visit to Our Lady of the Rock island and museum, The Old city Kotor, St. Tryphon Cathedral, Maritime Museum and all fees

### 4) Tourist Guide Services

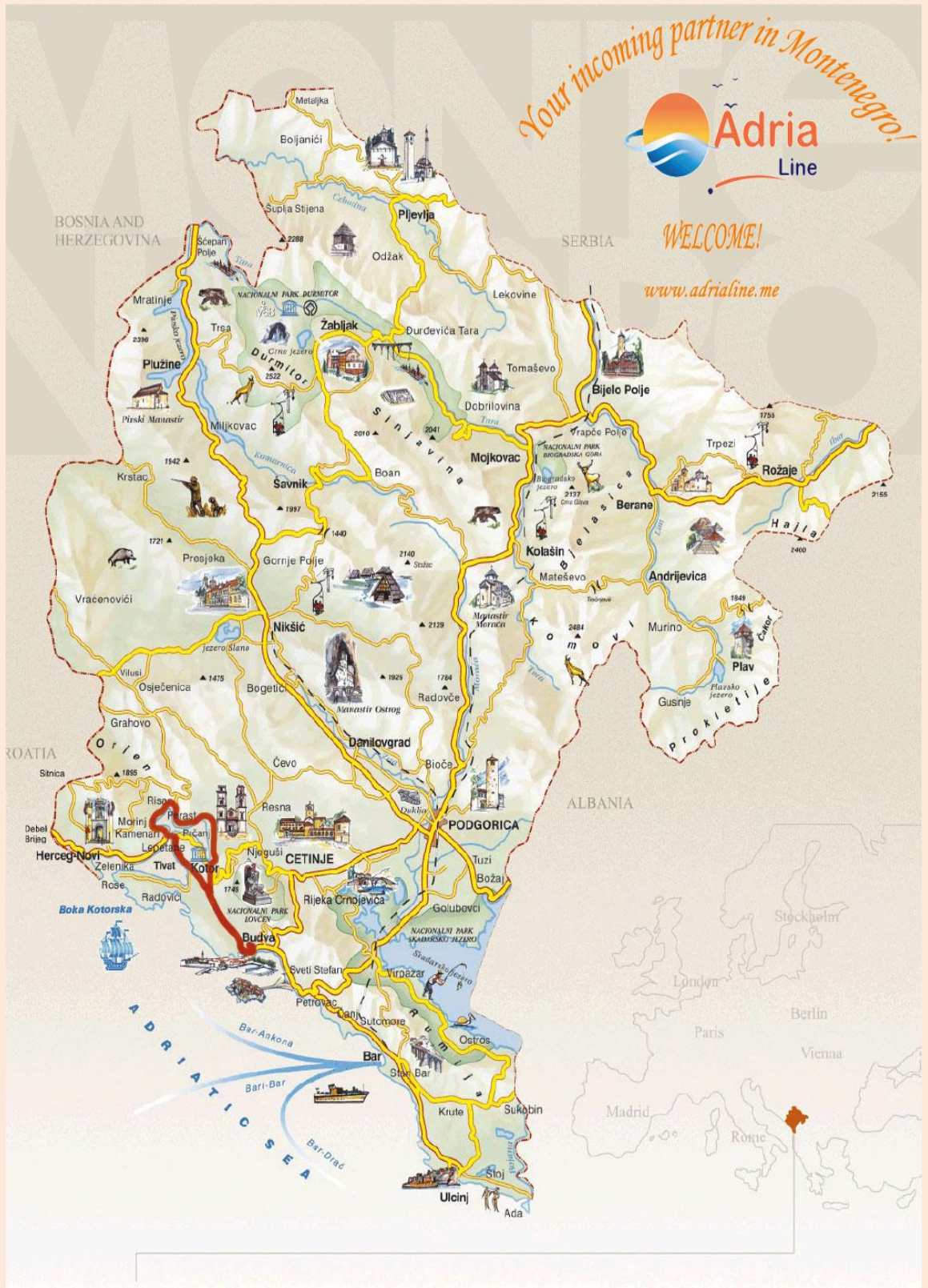
PRICE EXCLUDES: Other Entrance fees and meals







# Map of excursion







## *ADRIA LINE*

**TRAVEL AGENCY**  
Budva, Montenegro

**Web:** [www.adrialine.me](http://www.adrialine.me)  
**E-mail:** [info@adrialine.me](mailto:info@adrialine.me)

**Phone:** + 382 (0) 78 119 110  
**Fax:** + 382 (0) 78 119 110  
**Cell:** + 382 (0) 67 733 177



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